Daily Report

Latin America

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FBIS-LAT-88-198 *13 October 1988*

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NOTICE TO READERS: For three months beginning in November, material formerly appearing in the JPRS LATIN AMERICA REPORT will instead be published on a trial basis in the FBIS LATIN AMERICA DAILY REPORT.

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Cuba

Castro Speaks on L.A. Debt, Social Issues

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[Speech by President Fidel Castro closing the third continental women's meeting at the Palace of Conventions in Havana on 7 October—recorded]

[Text] [Crowd chants: "Fidel, for sure; hit the Yankees hard!"] If we hit the Yankees any harder [laughter] than you have here, there won't be any Yankees left. [applause; chants of "Fidel, pitch to them; the Yankees will strike out!"] That was demonstrated in the last world championship. [applause] Of course.

Dear delegates, esteemed guests:

You are certainly putting me in a serious spot by demanding that I make the closing speech at this event. I have certainly participated little in this event. It was not like the time before, in 1985, during the second continental meeting, at which we were essentially discussing the debt problem. I visited this Palace of Conventions many times and I had the opportunity to witness and participate in the debates. This time, other obligations made this privilege impossible. I have tried to obtain some information on developments here. I especially listened with great attention to the committees' reports, in particular, the final declaration.

I see that a large number of problems have been discussed. I don't know how you did so much in so little time. But I do know, I can see that you split up into committees and also.... [corrects himself] that is to say, you split up into committees and each committee split up into many groups, which I imagine allowed you to develop a truly broad and substantial debate. As the committees were read and the proposals made.... [corrects himself] as the reports were read and the proposals, analyses, etc, were made, I was thinking that it might be a good idea to make a book out of the debates. It is nothing new, it is nothing new. [repeats himself] We have done it before—for example, at the Nonaligned Movement meeting.

Many speeches are made at these nonaligned meetings. They are not debates, such as these. Rather, scores of heads of state and government stand at the podium and deliver tremendous speeches sometimes longer than the ones I make. [laughter] However, I am careful not to make speeches that are too long because you have to know when you can and when you can't. I have seen a lot of people who complained about the 15-minute limit and had terrible arguments about the order of the speeches. Well, they are chiefs of state. It's not for nothing that they have a bad reputation! [laughter] The fact is that no one was on time when the sessions started at 1000. Sometimes they showed up at 1100, 1130, 1200. They were in session then. No one wanted to take the 1000 slot to speak. Tell me about it! I had to preside over that summit meeting. Wisdom and tremendous diplomacy had to be used to be able to reconcile so many interests.

Sometimes the debates ran until 0200 or 0300. The last session ended at 0600. If they adopted your method of breaking up into committees, they could get much more work done. Fewer speeches would be made and deeper analyses could be carried out at these nonaligned summits.

What did we do? We decided to publish all the speeches. I don't know if there is anyone who will ever read them all, but at least they are there for history and there will always be some researcher, some historian, a political researcher—a curious person, let's say—who will be able to read those volumes. Certainly very interesting things are contained there, but there is also rhetoric.

I was thinking that if the issues discussed by the delegates to this meeting could be published, I am certain we would be offering extraordinarily valuable material to the world public, to the Latin American public, to the politicians interested in these matters. [applause] It would be a material of current and historical value, because you are including the problems of our age, the problems our peoples are experiencing. Just as some past processes are studied today, such as the French Revolution, which will soon be 2 centuries old.... [changes thought] You could see in all the events described the objective causes and factors that triggered the circumstances that opened the way for far-reaching social changes. A great revolution was carried out.

I also think that if the factors preceding the October Revolution in the old empire of the tsars were studied, you could understand the factors that led to violent and profound changes.

In the same way, future historians will have to refer to your material to understand what is going to happen, what could happen, and what will certainly happen if there are no solutions to these problems. Future historians will have to refer to all that you have debated, have said here, to understand the origin, as seen from the perspective of the future, of the changes in social, material, and human conditions on this continent.

I am speaking of Latin America and the Caribbean. I am not speaking so much of the United States or Canada, which have other kinds of problems and will require other kinds of changes.

You have reflected the reality of our hemisphere. That is why I think it would be very useful to put this material into book form and, if possible, to translate it so that men and women of other continents can receive information on all you have analyzed and all you have written.

As I was saying, a fundamental topic at the second conference was the foreign debt. Many international meetings took place that year. I recall that it all began with the meeting of Latin American women. If we had 300 that time, this time more than 1,000 have participated. This is a result not only of greater experience, greater solidarity, greater contact, but also responds to the greater seriousness of the situation, in such a way that it has awakened a great deal of interest in this meeting. Meetings of students and young people, peasants, trade unions, journalists, politicians, scientists, and religious and cultural figures took place that year. Many meetings took place that year, a year that we felt was truly decisive in this battle. Thus, our country devoted a great deal of time to that problem.

Many issues raised then were new. There were many people who, when they heard that the debt was unpayable and should not be paid, were almost afraid. They viewed the question as they would view relations between a family and the grocery store owner. We have all had dealings with the grocery store owner. In fact, I myself had a lot of dealings with the grocery store owner when I was a student and after I had just graduated. The grocery store owners gave me a lot of credit, and I was very grateful that they did. I should say that at the end some of those bills were not paid, not because I didn't want to pay them, but because when the revolution triumphed they didn't want to charge me. [laughter, applause] Perhaps I might have been able to pay the grocery store owner, the butcher, and, in sum, a number of creditors out of my salary, little by little. We have all had to go through that. I remember, oddly enough, that there were even opinion polls in some countries asking whether the debt should be paid or not. Most of the population in some countries said yes, why shouldn't it be? They saw the situation in the context of relations with the grocery store owner.

I think that the money you owe the grocery store owner can be paid and should be paid. We cannot be at odds with the grocery store owner. However, relations with the grocery store owner are very different, what we owe the grocery store owner is very different, from the kind of debt created in our countries. In the first place, you yourself incur the debt with the grocery store owner—an individual, a family. He is your friend. He knows you. When you don't have a cent, he gives you credit. You pay him later; he gives you more credit. However, the Latin American people did not incur the Latin American debt. The Latin American people did not receive anything. [applause]

We said then, and it is generally admitted today, that from the economic point of view, it was impossible—there were no resources—to pay it. Even if we wanted to pay it, it could not be paid. Politically, it was impossible, because the governments that tried to pay the debt went politically bankrupt. Facts demonstrate this. We said: This implies a big danger to the processes of democratic opening. The governments are going to be weakened, ruined politically. We said that from the legal point of view, it is unpayable because the debt should be paid by whoever incurs the debt. It was not the people, the legislatures. As a rule, it was not the people's representatives who contracted the debt. It was the governments: tyrannical, genocidal governments. They went into debt for tens of billions of dollars, hundreds of billions, often to buy weapons, to pay repressive bodies. Then, at the moment of the democratic opening, they were going to demand that the people pay those debts.

For instance, I asked myself: How can they ask the Chilean people to pay a $22 billion debt contracted by the tyrannical, repressive military regime—a regime that has produced so many crimes, so many missing, so much torture? How can they ask the Chilean people in their hour of freedom to pay Pinochet's debts? This was money he used to buy arms, to create a powerful army to help him stay in power for all these years. How is it possible?

In other cases, the governments contracted the debts. The legislatures had nothing to say about them. Other debts were contracted by the finance ministers, the national banks, and, often, private businesses. Who knows what they did with the money. Aside from the fact that the people did not participate in anything that gave rise to the debt, the people received practically nothing. The money was misspent, stolen, or taken abroad. [applause]

Taken abroad! It never reached the people. It's not the same thing as buying something from the grocery store owner, which, after all, is consumed by the family. There is no legal basis for paying the debt. Where is the money? If we only knew the hundreds of billions of dollars—yes, dollars; not sucres, pesos, or australes, but dollars kept in foreign banks in the United States, Europe, Switzerland, etc. It might be as much as the reported debt. They not only manipulated the interest of the debt, they not only effected unfair and immoral operations; they also applied policies so that money was taken abroad in the midst of the inflation devastating the empire, inflation that is worse today.

Who is going to hold their money? Money goes wherever it is safe to go. What kind of security could they find in these countries? So, it was not only ill-gotten money leaving the country, but also presumably legitimate money—profits of businesses, multinationals, corporations—so it would not be depreciated, devalued. The United States overvalued the dollar, paid high interest, and whatever money could escape to the United States, did so. They were only leaving ruins behind here.

We also said that because of these and other factors, it was impossible, from the moral point of view, to pay the debt. It was like a gambler going to a casino and losing millions of dollars, and then someone demanding that the gambler's children pay back the millions of dollars. There were so many reasons, so many arguments. We

said that historically, we are not debtors—you have echoed this—we are creditors because the ones accumulating the capital for the development of the developed capitalist world were our people with our blood, our sweat, our lives, the lives of the men and women they enslaved in America, the populations they practically exterminated in the midst of the harshest labor conditions.

Historically, the developed capitalist countries are our big debtors. They have plundered us in the past and they are plundering us at present. They used to rob us and they rob us now. They robbed us when we were colonies, and they are robbing us perhaps even more now that we are neocolonies. They rob us every day, all the time; they are robbing us right now. Each time there is a commercial transaction, they rob us. They pay us much less for our goods and they charge us much more for our imports. This might be industrial machinery, medicines, raw or semifinished materials, technology. They are charging us increasingly higher prices for the reasons you have noted in your final declaration: profiteering, cheap merchandise from the multinationals. This is, as you suggested, what often drives Latin American women into prostitution.

They rob us constantly. Statistical, mathematical data show how this phenomenon is getting worse. We are paid increasingly less and we are charged increasingly more. We are paid less for coffee, cacao, bananas, shoes, textiles produced and exported. In addition, they want us to live off exporting shoes, textiles, trinkets, raw materials, foodstuffs, so that they can process them and later sell them to us at very high prices. We produce those articles, that merchandise, on starvation wages. What is the living standard of the peasant who produces cacao or the agricultural laborer who produces cacao, coffee, etc? Does he have electricity? How much? Does he have a refrigerator, a television set? Does he eat well? Does he have shoes, clothing? Does he get medical attention? Does he have retirement benefits, social security? As a rule, he has none of this! They walk around barefoot; their children die because they have no medicine. Otherwise, why would a million children die each year in Latin America?

They could be saved, according to the UNICEF technicians and experts. They could be saved. Those who produce all those goods do not have the means to afford medical care for their children. They have no means to buy medicine. They live in shacks, under roofs made of palm fronds, or mud, or anything else they can find. They receive wages that often come to less than $50 at the present exchange rate. That's the situation in the majority of the Latin American countries today. Wages amounting to $50! However, what they buy is produced by people earning wages of $1,000, $1,500, or $2,000.

We even pay war taxes. All those valued added taxes. These include the taxes that finance military expenditures in developed capitalist countries. When we buy something from that developed world, we even pay war taxes. While wages have gone up.... [changes thought] Do the reports that talk about the economy and the social situation in Latin America show that real wages are growing in Latin America? All the reports of the past 8 years say the opposite. They say that the real per capita income of Latin America is diminishing with every year. The higher the wages over there in the developed capitalist world, the lower they are here. I am talking about the profits of the multinationals, because the wages are only part of it: the enormous profits, the enormous expenditures, the luxury of these societies. The so-called consumer society doesn't know what to do with them.

They can't even find places to dump their garbage. Any day now, the garbage they produce will bury them. Any day they'll be buried solely by their own garbage. [applause] Almost every day we get news of a ghost ship traveling through the Caribbean, the seas of Africa, carrying the garbage from England, the United States, and many industrialized countries. They don't want their garbage. They want to dump it on top of us. [laughter] They say: I throw this there, intoxicate everything, poison it all. That society that is so rich hasn't even resolved its problems. There are beggars there; there is poverty and unemployment. Part of the population goes hungry. They have beggars. They have prostitution in those developed capitalist countries. They also have drugs in growing amounts.

No, they have not solved their problems. Crime grows in all those societies. They have not solved their problems, in the midst of that abundant wealth coming in large part from our sweat and our blood. That is why I say they rob us every day. With what they have stolen from us, with what they have taken away from us because of unequal trade alone, we would have enough to pay the debt two times over. They want us to pay the debt and they want to keep stealing from us. Or, as you pointed out in your document, that they be paid in shares or that the debt be capitalized. With that debt they can buy all of Latin America and their slaves, with all of us inside. All of us. We become the property of the banks, of the empire. Yes, with that system of capitalizing the debt. To turn it into shares means taking away what little remains to us. They want to take it away from us.

So, this is a topic that was thoroughly examined in 1985 and at the previous meeting. I said that it was not clear what this problem consisted of. I feel that 1985 was a year to raise awareness among our peoples. All those meetings could have produced more. They could have produced more. That's another topic.

But at least they produced an awareness of the problem. What was stated then is today universally accepted. You can say today that our people are fully aware of this problem. It is the governments that did not fully realize the problem. It was the governments that should have acted. We hoped that the Latin American governments would act. We fought to create that awareness in world

public opinion so that the right conditions could be created for a united struggle of all the Latin American, Caribbean, and Third World peoples. We sent those materials to the governments of all the countries of all the continents—developed and underdeveloped.

We felt that it was an exceptional opportunity. We even talked about internal unity in all nations to fight against the foreign debt, as well as unity among nations to fight against the debt. This meant unity not only among the Latin American nations, but also unity among all Third World countries, because we said this is the pressing, basic, key, decisive issue of the moment. We did not view the problem of the debt in isolation; we saw it in association with the conditions that created the debt.

In essence, we saw it in connection with the trade relations between the developed capitalist world and the Third World. We were saying a new economic order has to be established, the new international economic order, as it is called, already approved at the United Nations. It was a new policy to truly eliminate the causes of the debt, which lay in underdevelopment, in all the ways in which we were plundered and robbed and our production sabotaged by means of dumping [preceding word in English], tariff measures, or other abusive practices.

We said: The debt should be the uniting factor, the factor that should make it possible for us to marshall our forces to fight for the new international economic order. It should also be the prelude to a true policy of unity and integration among Latin American nations. I truly feel that 1985 would have been a (?psychologically) decisive year had the leaders of the countries risen to the occasion. My conclusion is that the ruling classes—and here I make no party distinctions; I do not say this to offend or hurt anyone—it is my conviction, and history so demonstrates, that the ruling classes of Latin America did not know how to rise to the occasion. [applause]

We did not say anything against the governments. We were not proposing revolutions or subversion. We were calling for awareness among the people, the governments, regarding this problem so that they could wage the battle. We said that you can blockade a country, a small country such as Cuba, Nicaragua, or Panama, but you can't blockade a whole continent. We said that if a country.... [interrupted by applause] We said that if a country took the first step, the rest would support it, would try to create conditions. I sincerely think that a huge historic opportunity was lost. Everything has its time. The developed capitalist countries, the banks of the developed capitalist countries were in a panic at the time.

We were not proposing ruining the banks. We said: There's money to cancel the debt. There is money to fund the new international economic order. That money is in military expenditures. We were figuring it out. The money was in those trillions of dollars that were being spent and are still spent each year on weapons.

Let's search for peace, for coexistence, we said, and with the money saved from weapons purchases we can solve these problems. This is not going to lead to the ruin of the industrialized countries. On the contrary, it will make it possible for expanded international trade. It will make it possible to provide employment for the tens of millions of unemployed in those countries with their industrial reconversions, etc. They have tens of millions of unemployed. The day that the Third World countries possess purchasing power, the day when the Third World countries are able to buy all the equipment they need for their development, the money will be there. The money was there and it is there!

Of course, they will not do it out of charity, philanthropy. We have to demand it! [Castro pounds on podium] We could have organized a force capable of making demands by getting together and saying the plundering is over. We were not talking about begging the capitalists, the capitalist bankers, the developed capitalist world. We were not suggesting that! We were saying: We are strong enough to make demands, to make demands. [repeats himself] [applause]

They had to make the decisions, get together, come together and do battle like a trade union of sorts, at least. If the workers of a factory get together and join together, they are capable of going on strike when they want improved living conditions, when they have an economic demand. We weren't capable of acting even as members of a trade union, of uniting. It was not possible because imperialism did not want them to unite, not even to meet. They said no. They said: no club. No debtors' club; that is what the developed capitalist countries said.

The first thing that Latin American leaders did on getting up in the morning, before having breakfast, was to solemnly swear that they would not organize a debtors' club. [applause] There was not a single meeting in which they did not swear to it. The press agency reports are available. Meanwhile, the big capitalist countries met in the Paris Club, the IMF, which they own; the big capitalist countries met each year, once in Tokyo, another time in Canada, etc. Yet we didn't even have the rights enjoyed by a small trade union in a factory. We were obedient, bending, submissive to their wishes, their demands.

They scared us! What imperialism wanted was to have discussions with each one separately. It's as if a bully had a one-to-one discussion with every member in a group of Pioneers, one by one with every one. If the Pioneers get together, it's possible for them to take Gulliver down to the ground. Gulliver was taken to the ground by the little people because they banded together. In this case, the little people didn't even get together—they didn't unite to fight against Gulliver. It's a historical responsibility; history will have to take care of that. History will have to demand an accounting.

We used to say: If certain problems aren't solved, our society will explode. We used to say: I don't worry as much about the military governments returning as I do about big social explosions—this is what we used to say. Countries are in such ruin that they are ungovernable. When countries became even more ungovernable, popular pressure became more effective. When these military governments could not manage the country—because they had it in the grip of a super debt—then they were more inclined to leave the government. Even if it were possible not to ask them to render accounts for the crimes, they would leave the government, give it to the civilians, and say: There you have it. Handle it the best you can. However, now there's no money, no credit; there's nothing. In general, the people behind military coups don't feel very tempted to take charge of the government, because what are they going to take charge of? They're going to take charge of a problem, a headache, an unmanageable country. They're going to take charge of ruined countries! We used to warn the ruling classes of Latin America—there is another danger! The danger is from large social explosions; this is what we said.

Here we see how problems accumulate. Every day there's more dynamite in this powder keg—every day there's more, and you show it in the same things that I'm explaining to you here. Every day there's more dynamite and every day there's more indignation, more irritation, more humiliation. In many ways it hurts us. It's not only a physical suffering, but also a tremendous moral suffering. You refer to that moral suffering when you talk of how they invade the culture of our hemisphere. It hurts us; it hurts us all. That is, the way in which, by controlling the mass media—by broadcasts of the multinational media—they tell us what they want us to know, and color it the way they want us to see it.

Every day they rob us, every day they poison us, and every day they assault us culturally through their multinational agencies. This is known by the sociologists who have done studies of the evil influence—that abusive use of the mass media in the hands of the empire. It doesn't matter if a television network is state-owned or whether it belongs to a capitalist national; what is published, the information, comes from the outside—all of it! The information that is published in newspapers, in many magazines, or on the radio comes from the outside. What's broadcast comes from the imperialist metropolises. The movies that are generally distributed come from the outside. They have all that propaganda packaged the same way you can package—I don't know what—a piece of bacon or a piece of ham. That's the way they're packaging the propaganda. The episodes and the series—all of them—are packaged over here. Sociologists have proven that children who watch these programs every day don't know the history of their country, nor do they know who was the father of their country. But they know all the characters in those series. The children do know this. It's painful, it's terrible, it's an unbelievable form of intoxication. It's a constant intoxication of the minds, intelligence, and hearts of the children of our hemisphere. Every day they're poisoning them; they're the moral problems.

However, they also gave us other problems. Who spread AIDS through the world? Why are the Latin American countries, to a greater or lesser degree, full of AIDS now? They—the imperialists—spread AIDS throughout Latin America and the world! [applause]. I don't want to mention countries, but you feel hurt, you're moved when you see the indices pertaining to AIDS. The United States is the most infected of all because there are so many drugs and so many vices in that country. It has sophisticated equipment to analyze blood, to take measurements, to find medications—if not for all, at least for many people. They have everything a Latin American country doesn't have—the technology, the sophisticated equipment, the reactants to run tests.

There is hunger, and an increase of prostitution and drugs. Latin American countries weren't drug consumers; now they're turning these countries into consumers of drugs as part of the colossal market that they have created—a market of hundreds of billions of dollars per year, in drugs, created from the poverty, underdevelopment, and hunger of the Latin American countries. Not only have they turned Latin Americans into drug producers; they will supplant them with their greenhouses—because they already produce more marijuana than all the Latin American countries together. To give an example, in their greenhouses they make synthetic heroin and cocaine and all that. They ended up turning Latin American countries into drug producers. They also turn Latin American countries into drug consumers.

Those are the problems you were referring to, I think, in your final declarations, or in the reports from the committees, which talk about violence, the home, and the means whereby violence is introduced into the home. This is done through the most unbelievable films that don't show anything, don't educate, don't create anything, don't produce any good in man; they only promote an excessive use of sex, of violence! It's a madness, a carnival of violence that deforms Latin American homes. They exploit us and plunder us. We think we're very free, very independent, but they not only rob us every day, they poison us every day. What you have said here reflects a conscious awareness of these problems. Are we going to be robots? Are we going to let those conditions be imposed on us? We're aware of these problems. We're capable of thinking about them, expressing them, making them known, and discussing them, and of uniting to fight these problems.

These problems affect every family, and especially the women, especially the women [repeats himself] because the women have to deal with most of the burden—as you have said—of this crisis, of this situation, of these problems. You have to deal with the problems of rising unemployment, the increase in the number of single

mothers, the very difficult economic situation of the housewives. Women are especially sensitive because they are directly affected by the consequences, they are directly affected by these problems.

Then, what is the future going to be like? The future is not for us to bend our backs more each time. The future can't be for them to keep fooling the masses, the people, when the people are becoming more aware of these problems. That's why I was telling you, in reference to this situation, that we're not promoting subversion. It's not necessary. We're not saying, change governments—the governments that exist are the ones that must act. This is a problem that affects all social sectors. It also affects all social classes—not only peasants, salaried workers, small producers, the shopkeepers I spoke of, small businessmen, professionals. We know what happens to professionals in many countries. We know about the tens of thousands, the hundreds of thousands, that are getting out of the universities without jobs. We know about the professionals that have to work two or three jobs to be able to barely survive; not one job—rather, two and three. Many have had to drive a taxi and take different jobs in order to make a living because universities continue producing hundreds of thousands of professionals without jobs. I've thought about this and said: Well, there they are creating the theoreticians of revolutions, theoreticians of revolutions [repeats himself]. [applause]

Generally, revolutions are carried out by the people, but the theories come from the intellectuals, the professionals, the ones that went to universities, the ones that have a higher preparation in theory, and clearly see problems and are capable of expressing them. Anywhere you look, explosive elements are being added in Latin American societies. We were saying that we don't promote what they call subversion. We were saying how these problems affect all the sectors, all of society, the state, the political processes. We, logically, expected governments to assume their responsibilities at the right moment. Well, undoubtedly, there has been a great deal of deterioration. Governments that won elections by a large number of votes, that had a lot of popular support, deteriorate in a matter of years, sometimes in a matter of months. They lose the credibility, trust, and support they had at the time they agreed to take over power. That process of deterioration is taking place—and in some cases at a very fast pace—because the governments find themselves powerless, to tell you the truth. They find themselves powerless. No government can come out of this powerless situation by itself.

A government may have good intentions; it may be aware of problems, and may want to solve them. But if these factors that are such a heavy burden aren't resolved, it will not have the ways and means to solve the problems. If the problem of the debt isn't solved, the new international economic order will bring about greater cooperation among these countries; otherwise, we can't get away from the infernal dependence. How long does it take today for a government that is elected for 4 or 5 years, elected freely, through free elections, with everyone's participation, to deteriorate? How long does it take these days for a government to deteriorate in Latin America? The problem does not arise from the situation; it's structural. There is a crisis in the system. We could say that there is a crisis in the system. The system is unable to solve the problem; it makes problems worse, it shows itself more and more powerless—that's a reality.

The solution is not in promoting subversion. I wish we could solve it without violence. We were proposing in 1985: Let's take the measures to avoid the circumstances that give rise to the explosive situations, the ones that give rise to violent changes. When we went to Ecuador and were interviewed by reporters, we said that violence was the last resort. I said, and I think that those who studied the history of those events will agree, if a wise king had existed, perhaps there wouldn't have been a French Revolution. [applause] What's more, I said: If there had been a wise tsar, there wouldn't have been a Russian Revolution. [applause] Or at least there wouldn't have been the violent type of revolution. And I told the reporters—it hurt me to say it—I see the objective conditions that gave rise to the great historical revolutions accumulating. I see that they are accumulating in Latin America, the objective conditions that gave rise to the great historical revolutions.

We can't find, we don't see, men who are wise enough to take the measures that give way to evolution, reform, or change that would prevent the classical type of revolution. We don't see that wisdom anywhere. We don't see it in the governments of our regions, we don't see it in the developed capitalist countries, and we see it even less in the United States—it doesn't have a conscience. No. What it wants all the time is more military power, more economic power, more propaganda, and more violence to stop changes. Kennedy, at least, saw the problems of Latin America. It was around the time of the Cuban revolution's triumph. This I have to explain, because I see so many young faces among you that I believe many of you were not born yet and others were Pioneers when.... [changes thought] If any of you get angry because of this, raise your hand. [laughter] Well, you were Pioneers. When the Cuban revolution triumphed you didn't know about politics, you didn't read the news. Everything you heard about Cuba came from up there, the brutal and turmoiled North—as Marti called it. All of his reports every day told of all the many things he thought.

They did the same, with regard to the Cuban revolution, as they did with all the others. Reading a book by (Cholohoff), I saw that many of the things they said about us had already been said about the October Revolution. They were telling the people that they were going to take their children. Here they told the mothers that they were going to take their children and send them to Russia. Have you heard such a thing? To Russia. I don't know where they were going to stick them over

there—Siberia, or I don't know where, because it's a big country. They said that the state was going to take the children. In 30 years, what the state has done is demand that the family take care of the children, [laughter] and that they cooperate with the school. [applause] And demand of the family, tell the family that education is not the responsibility of the state alone, of the teachers, of professors, but rather that the family plays a very important and decisive role. It is a responsibility of the family. They said that the state.... [changes thought] Some women panicked. It seems incredible, but that was the case. It doesn't matter how big a lie is—I believe it was Goebbels, a sort of fascist, one of those fascists, who said: Sometimes, the bigger the lie, the easier it is to believe, no matter how incredible it seems. Women left for the United States. An exodus started this way.

They even prepared—how do you say?—fictitious documents. They said: This is a document that is being prepared; it was taken from a minister's office. They cited documents containing laws, since other types of laws had been created, incredible laws such as the agrarian or housing reform law. There was a mentality that made people believe any atrocity they were told about during those days. I said: Who is going to wash those children's diapers if a state decides to pick up all children? [laughter]

The state can organize schools, child care centers for mothers—working mothers—to take them at a certain time. It would be good if in the future all mothers can take them because child care centers are great for the child's education. But they have to take them home and take care of them, including on Saturdays and Sundays. After 30 years we have not finished building all the child care centers working mothers need.

In 2 or 3 more years, at the present pace of our program, all working mothers will have the services of child care centers. A large number of working mothers with small children, younger than 5 years of age, benefit from child care centers. We are finishing those programs.

In reality, I was telling you that at that time they carried out terrible campaigns against Cuba. At the same time, Kennedy was concerned about the economic and social situation in Latin America. This was almost 30 years ago. This was in 1960. In 1959 they carried out their scare. They started to take all kinds of measures. The blockade was in 1960. They invented the Alliance for Progress. Perhaps you have heard about it. This U.S. policy proposed a reform program. They started to talk about agrarian reform. They had never talked about that. If anyone talked of agrarian reform he was accused of being a communist.

Kennedy began talking about agrarian reform because of the triumph of the Cuban revolution. They were scared because of the Cuban revolution. He said: Let's put out this fire before it spreads. Let's prevent Latin America from catching fire. So, he said an agrarian reform must take place to distribute land among peasants, to improve the peasants' livelihood possibilities. He talked about fiscal reforms. He talked about housing, health, and education programs, and he talked about loans for them. He talked about lending $20 billion over 10 years.

That was the imperialists' major campaign in the first years of the Cuban revolution: the Alliance for Progress. The United States was afraid social conditions would lead to revolutions in Latin America. Imperialism at least had leaders who were concerned about the problem and thought of some remedy. It was a remedy to keep situations from reaching such great extremes that they would lead to revolutions. However, what was the situation at that time? Latin America had less than half the population it now has; Latin America and the Caribbean had less than half. Latin America had a third of the problems it now has. Unemployment was much lower, it had less poverty than now, it had fewer accumulated problems than now.

Therefore, there was less unequal exchange in Latin America. In 1960, its products were worth more. With a certain amount of sugar, coffee, or cacao, they could buy equipment; now, they need three or four times that amount to buy the same equipment. In 1960, Latin America did not owe a cent; today, it owes over $4 billion. Today, it has to pay tens of billions of dollars. It has less and less, so much so that now it has nothing. It is like a corpse without blood. It is a corpse that has no blood left. [chuckles] Statistics show that in recent years, less money is taken out of it. The flight of capital is not as high—although there is still flight of capital—because there is less and less capital to leave Latin America. There is less money to pay the debt; there is more poverty.

Kennedy talked about lending $20 billion over 10 years. In recent years, much more than $20 billion, several times $20 billion, has left Latin America. The United States remains nonchalant; it is not aware of the powder keg we have today in Latin America. That is the reality; that is what you are reflecting: all these material, human, and moral problems. All sorts of problems have been discussed here, even the problem of torture and missing people. Everybody knows how that started; everybody knows how the henchmen who made people disappear were trained. These henchmen tortured men and women and used the most merciless and brutal forms of psychological pressures and psychological and physical tortures. Everybody knows it. They trained all those henchmen; they had to meddle everywhere. Everybody knows from experience how the Nicaraguan tragedy arose; it happened because Nicaraguans wanted to be free and independent, wanted to expel Somoza—and they did—and wanted a popular government. It was the same in 1953 [as heard] in Guatemala, when Jacobo Arbenz wanted to enact land reform and have a government, a government.... [changes thought] They did not stop trying until they got rid of him!

They did not forgive Nicaraguans for wanting to have a popular government that would work for children, the sick, women, peasants, and workers, although Nicaraguans proposed a bipartisan system and a mixed economy. How much has this cost Nicaragua? Tens of thousands of lives. What would have happened in the United States if a war claiming millions of lives had been organized from Canada? We must multiply the people killed in the United States 80 times; 40,000 people killed in Nicaragua is equivalent to 3.2 million killed in the United States. What would they have done?

They would have droppped 100 nuclear bombs. Yet, they feel entitled to treat such a small Central American country that way. They feel entitled to invade Grenada. They felt entitled to send their airborne divisions and invaded that tiny country. Grenada is 400 square km and has 120,000 residents. But they want to make social changes in those countries.

Everyone knows the origin of the situation in El Salvador, and what they have done and are doing. Everybody knows about the genocide being perpetrated there. They are flooding that country with money and weapons to support the genocidal government. With those weapons, they have been unable to crush the Salvadorans' spirit of struggle. Everyone knows what is happening in Panama—the plans, the goals, all the campaigns against Panama that have as their sole objective the cancellation of the Torrijos-Carter treaties. They have employed all kinds of pressure, campaigns, and slander. We have seen it; we can attest to some of this slander. We have seen how they prep some individuals, take them to the Senate, and make them say all kinds of nonsense, some of which we know is an absolute lie. They are trying to bring up our conversations here with Panamanian delegations.

We have met with many, many Panamanian delegations since Torrijos; there have always been exchanges since they began their struggle for the Panama Canal. Who knows how often some have come? So many different people have come. Some of these individuals have been used to fabricate stories about alleged conversations between those delegations and us. We are aware of many of those lies. It is a campaign waged with utter contempt for the peoples. [Words indistinct] now in Panama is creating lots of problems for the Panamanian people.

This event has coincided with the historic date of the Chilean plebiscite—5 October. It is an important date. On that date, I unveiled a statue of Salvador Allende in a ceremony some of you attended. I inaugurated a park named after him. It has been 15 years. How much has its government cost Chile? How much will it still cost Chile? The Chilean people surely must continue struggling to achieve a government elected by the people. Who knows what ploys Pinochet may devise? [Words indistinct] the one who organized the destabilization of Chile, the one who paid for destabilization in Chile when the rich women went out with their pots—the very women who always had their pans filled. When the inflation rate is high and there are great shortages, the wealthy have everything they need to put in their pans. These rich women went out when there were some shortages in Chile. There were shortages because there was greater social justice and greater distribution. Everything coincided with a situation in which the price of copper was low. Allende did not receive a cent in loans. Of course, products began to be scarce. The workers did not go out in the wealthiest residential neighborhoods with their pans. The United States orchestrated and organized a program that led to the military uprising and Allende's murder.

All loans for Allende were suspended, yet the Chilean Army continued to receive loans. Imperialism saw the Chilean Army as the last resort within its reach to impose order in the country.

After some time had gone by and the people's government was beginning to weaken, they overthrew and murdered Salvador Allende. We cannnot forget that it was the imperialists who promoted this situation.

They were the ones who fostered military governments in Argentina, Uruguay, Brazil, and other countries; they fostered and supported them. They have given Pinochet billions of dollars in credit. The IMF and the World Bank lend money to the Chilean Government with an open hand, while they refuse to loan money to other Latin American governments. That is their favorite type of government. But I ask myself: Will they be abie to keep up with this situation? I have told this to many American politicians who have visited Cuba: They think that when the day comes that they have a big problem in Latin America, the problem will be solved by bringing in airborne troops or battalions from the 82d Division. Upon realizing the parameters and situation in Latin America, and the fighting spirit of its peoples, I am sure they will have to bring in 100 divisions like the 82d Division from the United States. [applause]

It is not the same as invading Grenada. They are dealing with small isolated countries. Cuba is a small island of 100,000 sq km. Our population was over 6 million when the blockade began.

What is the United States going to do with Latin America if the situation continues to get worse and more complicated? What are they going to do if explosive factors continue to be added and this hemisphere blows up? How are they going to deal with it? It is evident they will not be able to deal with it. No country, regardless how strong, can dominate another country.

The United States has not been able to dominate Nicaragua; they are far from dominating it, and Nicaragua has 3.5 million inhabitants. They have not been able to dominate it even having implemented and used a dirty war and the rest of their methods. They have not been able to attain their goal; they have failed.

The United States has not been able to crush the Salvadoran people despite the hundreds of millions of dollars they have invested and the enormous number of weapons they have sent toward the genocide. They have not been able to crush them.

The United States has not been able to crush Panama with its blockade and threats. Countries are begin to wake up. An example of their awakening is the 5 October plebiscite. Was this not a great awakening? I was not surprised. Those who were present at that act [Allende Park inaguration in Havana] know I stated my conviction that Chileans would vote against Pinochet despite pressures, economic resources, and millions of dollars in propaganda, that they would vote against Pinochet despite the advice of Western experts, mostly Yankees, on propaganda and public opinion manipulation matters; despite the terror Pinochet has sown by telling the people a no-vote would lead to chaos; and despite the fact it was a match between a candidate and an idea. The only candidate was Pinochet; there was no other individual saying: Vote for me. Pinochet told the people every day: Vote for me; I am the savior of this country; I have saved the Western world. There were movies shown, but there was no mention of the daily repression of the people, the tear gas, the water hoses. All that propaganda, all that manipulation they tried to use to convince the Chilean people, was useless. It was a match between a candidate and an abstract idea, because the no-vote was an abstract thing. It is the first time in history an abstract thing won so many votes. [applause]

On 5 October, we told the comrades who participated in that event that it would be against the laws of history, against the laws of human psychology, against the people's psychology, if the Chilean people forgot the terror, the crimes, the torture, the missing people, the injustices, the abuses, the humiliation Pinochet imposed on them.

Both things were put to the test, the resources and the abusive propaganda, the whole science of the manipulators of opinion [words indistinct]. Now we have to see what the effects, the psychological impact, of that situation will be. It cannot be determined now how it will end. [Words indistinct] to be able to make any prediction. [Words indistinct] make predictions in situations such as this. We have to wait and see what the psychological impact of this defeat will be on the regime and its forces. One has to wait and see how events will develop. Perhaps Pinochet is waiting to run again against a divided opposition. A lot of advice has been given to Pinochet to allow him to entertain such illusions.

Unfortunately, there is division in the Chilean opposition. This is perhaps the single most logical and realistic explanation for why the infamous Pinochet regime has lasted for 15 years. He is already thinking of becoming a presidential candidate against a divided opposition. Perhaps he thinks he will again get 42 [as heard]. But how many voted twice to give him 42? How much fraud was there? Does he have the strength to avail himself of the same resources? I am certain that the Chilean people will have the last word on this.

That is why I say that 5 October was a test for the Latin America people. Imperialism must be aware of this. These changes are urgently needed and inevitable, whether they come willingly or unwillingly, peacefuliy or violently. It is not men who invent methods, but life itself, the evolution of events. If a woman is pregnant, she will have a baby. Perhaps it will be a [word indistinct] delivery, perhaps a hospital delivery, with great pain or not too much pain. But this hemisphere has within itself the fetus of change, radical change.

These changes will come, with or without pain. The delivery will be less painful or more painful depending.... [changes thought] Is someone calling me on the telephone? That is all I need! [Castro laughs] I was saying that these changes will be more or less painful depending on the extent to which people are responsible, depending on the wisdom of the men who today wield public authority.

Naturally, deliveries require male midwives and the people are the great male midwives of change—female or male midwives. I do not know why I said male midwives. I myself was helped into the world by a midwife. Isidra was the name of my midwife. I still remember her. People spoke to me about her, and she was the midwife of all my brothers. In the interior they used midwives. And we could say that in this, in the changes in Latin America, the midwives play a very important role. [applause]

We saw it in the final declaration. Everyone is aware of this. You are not only aware; you are enthusiastic, because one paragraph mentions taking power by storm. That says a lot. I consider it gutsy. Those who participated in this meeting, who have seen the reports and the statements, those who know about your enthusiasm in doing your work, the seriousness, the thoroughness in (?dealing with) the problems, those of us who have witnessed the rise of this struggle of Latin American women, those of us who know who suffers most from these problems, have no doubt that the idea contained in that paragraph is just. We know it from our own revolution, from the role that women played in the revolutionary struggle of our country, and from the role that women have played in the construction of socialism in our country. I believe that without the decisive support of women, it would not have been possible to attempt the construction of socialism in our country. [applause]

In the feminine sector of our population, the women have always given the revolution their maximum support, their maximum cooperation. [Words indistinct] It is true that our revolution has the support of several mass organizations: the peasants, the workers, the [word indistinct]. They have been a great force. I explained it

yesterday to several comrades I met by coincidence because I decided to go somewhere. I was returning [words indistinct] from the province. When I made contact [words indistinct] I found Vilma there. I told myself that no one would believe it was a coincidence. They would say it was planned.

The fact is they were there and we talked. I explained to several comrades that the work of the revolution would not have been possible without the support of the masses, without the support of millions and millions of men and women. Our programs for education, health, the things you have seen, the things we are doing, and the things we are going to do in the near future, in the next few years, because we always have more ambitious plans. (?It is not just a matter of) solving a problem, but of improving the solutions we have found to our problems, of improving the work of the revolution and [words indistinct] that could not have been conceived of without the systematic and daily work of millions of men and women—young and old—and children, because that is what the work of the revolution is based on. Even putting together a good vaccination campaign is impossible without the support of the teachers—health and education campaigns, development plans and programs, everything is impossible without them.

I am not going to say more about this now, but we are aware of the importance of women in society. We are also aware of the tremendous struggle we must wage to solve the problems we have just mentioned related to education, children, unemployment, inequality, the eradication of discrimination, and the development of a country. We need to achieve higher levels of development in the areas of our country where you say we have made progress.

Many years went by before we could solve our problems. Some problems were solved more quickly than others. With the support of the masses, we eradicated illiteracy in a year. Then came the educational programs for those people who were already literate. They reached the second, third, fourth, fifth, and sixth grades. Some of those people even went on to earn a college degree. We were able to train all the teachers needed in our society. There used to be a few thousand teachers, and many of them were jobless. A great effort was needed to train the 270,000 teachers and professors we have today. A great effort was needed to train the 18,000 substitute teachers, who are paid when they replace the teachers who go off to study. A great effort was needed to train the 30,000 doctors we have today and the 3,000 plus doctors we are graduating each year.

When the empire opened its doors so they could leave—there were many unemployed doctors before the revolution who refused to go to the rural areas—many left to seek the benefits of a consumer society. Today we have 31,000 doctors and thousands of them are teachers. We have family doctors, and we are developing programs in many areas. A great effort was undertaken to do this. I am telling you this because you are in this struggle. We can say you are beginning this struggle. There will come a day when, along with the men, you will reach this goal and you will attain power. You may say that you feminize this struggle, but I would say you humanize it, because femininity is also a synonym for humanity. [applause] So that no one feels discriminated against, you can say that you will attain power to humanize it and to put it at the people's service.

When the Latin American peoples achieve these goals, you will have achieved all the things you want. The task of creating and building will begin. The struggle to solve problems will begin, and I warn you that it will take you dozens of years because our problems have become as serious as the rest of the problems in Latin America. Of course, our peoples have much experience. History has taught us many things. Maybe you can take advantage of the experience of other peoples, but it will be a task that will take you dozens of years. Our revolution will celebrate its 30th anniversary. It has been 30 years of Yankee blockades, of threats, and of dangers that have forced us to invest our few resources in the country's defense. These 30 years of struggle have yielded some results. In 5 or 6 more years, these results will be even more impressive because of our strength, our experience, and our increased levels of organization.

We are no longer an illiterate people. Our workers have at least reached the 9th or 10th grade. We have hundreds of thousands of university professionals who have accumulated much experience in the midst of these international problems. In a year, we can often do what used to take us 3, 4, or 5 years in many areas. The most difficult problem is in the field of economic development, with the harsh conditions in international trade and the Third World crisis that we mentioned earlier.

If there was one thing that I wanted to tell you, to remind you of, it is this: The struggle is long. We must be aware that this struggle is difficult, complex, and long. Much time will pass before the peoples control their destinies, truly control their destinies. Much time will pass before we can overcome the suffering, the problems that are the result of the centuries-old exploitation and plunder. As Latin American women, you should bear in mind that the Latin American and Caribbean peoples not only need to eradicate the debt but they also need to unite. To eradicate that debt, we need to unite. To achieve a new international economic order, we need to unite. To achieve integration, we need to unite.

We all deserve a better destiny. We have the right to a better destiny. The integrity, the talent of our peoples, their patriotism, their courage, their sensitivity, make them worthy of a better destiny. We hope that when future generations meet, they will do so to address other problems, goals, and objectives and that the problems that are at the center of your attention today will have been overcome.

The empire should not dream that it will have us eternally enslaved, eternally dependent, eternally subjugated. The examples of the small countries mentioned here today, including that of Cuba, show that we have the virtues, the qualities, the courage, and the patriotism to avoid being eternally dependent and avoid being eternally subjugated. [applause] We are soon going to celebrate our 30th anniversary. We have seen our region change. We compare the past with today. We compare the past problems and those of today. When the revolution emerged, there was an attempt to totally isolate us. Efforts were made for many years to isolate us, and many people were deceived for a long time. This reminds us of a saying that is attributed to Lincoln: You can fool some of the people all the time; you can fool all of the people some of the time; but you cannot fool all of the people all of the time. [applause]

When we see how the ties among the Latin American and Caribbean peoples are strengthened, when we see the awareness that exists in this region where we live, I ask: What has happened to the campaigns? What has happened to the lies of imperialism that have been repeated thousands of times, hundreds of thousands of times, millions of times? We see in practice, we see it is a fact, that one cannot fool all the peoples of Latin America and the Caribbean all the time. I can add something else: It is increasingly difficult for imperialism to fool some of the Latin American people all the time. [applause] The time will come when it will be able to fool absolutely none of the Latin American and Caribbean peoples. [applause] Those are the lessons of history. The empire is on the wrong track when its most powerful weapon—lies—begins to fail; when its most powerful instrument, its most wounding claw—the lies—becomes harmless, becomes ineffective, becomes useless. After all, we are vaccinating ourselves, [applause] and if the lie [as heard] against the AIDS disease has not yet appeared, the vaccine against the imperialist lie has begun to appear in the hearts, the conscience, and the intelligence of the Latin American peoples. Fatherland or death, we will win!

Raul Castro Tours Granma Province Projects

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[Excerpts] On the occasion of the "Moncada 3 88 1" [as heard] defense demonstration exercise which has just ended, Army General Raul Castro, second secretary of the PCC and minister of the FAR, toured Granma Province.

The "Moncada 3 88 1" defense demonstration exercise was held on 7, 8, and 9 October in Granma Province. Army General Raul Castro Ruz attended the activities accompanied by a small working group consisting of party and state leaders, as well as chiefs and officials of the MININT [Ministry of the Interior].

Roberto Damian Alfonso Gonzalez, member of the PCC Central Committee and president of the Defense Council of Granma Province, began the exercise with a presentation to the FAR minister on the economic, political, and military development of the territory. Other officials and leaders explained the missions to be accomplished for the various stages of the complete readiness for defense such as the combat and wearing down of the enemy, territorial defense, development of the Turquino plan, and development of communications.

During the 2d day of the exercise, the minister [words indistinct] made an extensive tour of the mountain municipality of Buey Arriba. In the territory of La Estrella he visited various social installations such as a general store, a multipurpose center, a bakery, and a candy factory which he inaugurated. He also visited a family doctor clinic and video room to congratulate the workers on their efforts. Afterwards, they declared the area as the first zone ready for defense, second stage in Granma Province.

Another area in Buey Arriba visited by the FAR minister and his entourage was (Banco Arriba) where there is a Youth Labor Army camp. A community is being built there for them. It will consist of 60 comfortable houses in various and original two-level units, with a multipurpose center, post office, social circle, video room, and other facilities planned within the Turquino plan. [Passage omitted with indistinct portions]

When the FAR minister visited the Columna Invasora Ciro Redondo defense preparatory school located in the (?woods) of Buey Arriba, he said to the students:

[Begin Castro recording in progress] ... to congratulate all of you. Through you, and the whole population of this area, this municipality, with the effort of our workers and all of you, is becoming more and more an inexpugnable bastion. [applause] [end recording]

Subsequently, at the main town of Buey Arriba he toured a factory which manufactures furniture, baskets, and other similar objects out of fibers of the (guaniquiqui) branch. The beauty and originality of the products was praised.

At the (El Mijiel) mule reproduction center, which belongs to the municipal agricultural center of Buey Arriba, Raul Castro chatted with some of the workers. He acknowledged their efforts and the results achieved. The unit's objective is the development of mule breeding because of its importance as a means of transporation and for cargo in the mountains.

The leveling training center for university students of the Turquino plan was inaugurated. The center is in the region bordering (Izca) in Bayamo.

[Begin Castro recording] This will be the leveling course. Not everyone will study this kind of engineering because we also need other specialties in the mountains. We need economists and different specialties. I do not speak to you about those yet (?because) they will be planned while you are taking the course. We want an engineer, an agronomist with a broad background who understands all the different kinds of problems. We don't want what we had up to now, people with narrow backgrounds. [end recording]

On the last day of the exercise at the defense zone of (El Raudal) in Guisa, and after attending a tactical exercise demonstration with the participation of small units of the MTT [Territorial Troops Militia] and the [word indinstinct] and defense brigades, the FAR minister presented the banner and certificate which credits them as zone ready for defense, second stage.

[Begin Castro recording] We will continue to strengthen ourselves. We will continue to develop in the social and economic order of our mountains through the Turquino plan. We will also, each time, become stronger from a military point of view so that never in future centuries—and the 21st century can practically hear us—will anyone impose upon us their will [passage indistinct] (?imperialist) will not be able to establish a (?stronghold) in our small, beautiful, and heroic Republic of Cuba. [applause] [end recording] [passage indistinct]

One of the areas visited was the dam construction of El Corojo which will store over 90 million cubic meters of water by the end of 1990. This will benefit the rice areas and pastures. The second secretary of the PCC Central Committee also toured the marble quarry in Jiguani which belongs to the [name indistinct] establishment. The (?orchid) [word indistinct] marble is extracted from here, it is the only one in the world and it is exported.

In Guisa municipality, he attended a demonstration of the combat capacity of a battalion formed by students and workers of the (Avidaguil Gonzales) pre-university institute.

[Words indistinct] as he summarized the "Moncada 3 88 1" exercise he said:

[Begin Castro recording] I relay everyone's feelings and express our deep gratitude. We also congratulate all the defense councils. [Words indistinct] represent our people, party, government, armed forces, Ministry of the Interior, all under the leadership of the party. Therefore, we give a warm hug to everyone, and we will inform Comrade Fidel in detail on what we have seen here these past few days. Thank you very much. [applause] [end recording]

Presides at 10 October Ceremony

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[Excerpt] Army General Raul Castro Ruz, second secretary of the PCC Central Committee and minister of the FAR, has presided over the ceremony commemorating the 120th anniversary of the Demajagua uprising in Manzanillo, Granma Province. The ceremony took place in the same spot where Carlos Manuel de Cespedes initiated the struggle for Cuba's independence on 10 October 1868. Eighty residents of Manzanillo received the honorary card identifying them as members of the PCC.

During the closing remarks, Jorge Enrique Mendoza, member of the PCC Central Committee and president of the Institute of Cuban History, said:

[Begin Mendoza recording] Because as Fidel has said, what difference could there be between the slave's hut and the salaried laborer's hut of the false republic until 1958. The Cuban people will prove him right. Today, for this reason, dear comrades, let us all say: Eternal glory to 10 October! [crowd answers, Glory!] Eternal glory to Carlos Manuel de Cespedes! [crowd answers, Glory!] Glory to all those who fought, glory to all who were in combat, fell, and were honored with their [words indistinct] and their lives. Thank you very much. [applause] [end recording]

The FAR minister recalled anecdotes of the insurrectionist struggle in the territory. [passage omitted with indistinct portions]

Visits Road Construction

FL1210164688 Havana Radio Reloj Network in Spanish 1502 GMT 12 Oct 88

[Text] Army General Raul Castro, minister of the FAR, toured the Bayamo-Montero and Las Mercedes-Marea del Portillo roads under construction in Granma Province on Tuesday [11 October]. At the Bayamo-Montero road, Raul went to the stretch between Purial de Jibacoa and Sao Grande. This road will reduce travel time considerably between the Granma capital and several coast and mountain municipalities. The Bayamo-Montero road is being built by Heroes de Granada and 30th Aniversario del Granma brigades. The workers plan to complete it by December 1990.

Touring the Las Mercedes-Marea del Portillo road, the second secretary of the PCC Central Committee learned that it is being built by La Plata brigade. The road will cross dense regions of the Sierra Maestra. This road is expected to be completed by the end of next year.

FAR Minister Raul Castro urged the workers to achieve maximum quality in these projects to guarantee their durability. Raul stressed the importance of providing

systematic maintenance to the roads. He said this will make their preservation possible and ensure greater safety for light and heavy vehicle traffic.

The FAR minister also had an exchange with students of the primary school located in La Habanita, Sierra Maestra, Bartolome Maso Municipality. He noticed the improvement of living conditions of the Caridad de Mota residents in Pilon Municipality.

At the end of his tour, Castro visited the Marea del Portillo Hotel in Pilon, which was recently expanded. Cabins for international tourists continue to be built there.

Rodriguez Meets Third World Foundation Official
FL1210165188 Havana Tele-Rebelde Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 12 Oct 88

[Text] Carlos Rafael Rodriguez, vice president of the Councils of State and Ministers, has received Mr (Louis Gauter), secretary-general of the Third World Foundation for Economic and Social Studies. Mr (Gauter) is in our country as a guest of the Cuban Government. Rodriguez and the distinguished guest talked about the economic and social conditions of Third World countries.

Agreement With Japan on Loan Repayment Deferment
OW1310044888 Tokyo KYODO in English 0007 GMT 13 Oct 88

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 13 KYODO - Japan and Cuba agreed to defer the repayment of overdue loans totaling 8.48 billion yen to the Caribbean country until 1992, the Foreign Ministry said Thursday.

Cuba had to repay the loans by 1986 for commercial debt covered by Japanese Government trade insurance.

The rescheduled debt is to be repaid in nine semiannual installments starting in July 1992 at an annual interest rate of 6.6 percent.

The agreement was made in line with a plan worked out at a Paris Club meeting of creditor nations in July 1986.

The two governments exchanged diplomatic documents on the accord Thursday in the Cuban capital of Havana, according to the ministry.

Agreement Signed With Yemen Arab Republic
FL1210035888 Havana Television Service in Spanish 0100 GMT 12 Oct 88

[Text] Dr Abd al-Karim al-Iryani, minister of foreign affairs of the Yemen Arab Republic, is in our country where he has visited various centers of economic and social interest.

The distinguished visitor was received today at the Palace of the Revolution by Carlos Rafael Rodriguez, member of the PCC Central Committee Politburo and vice president of the Council of Ministers, with whom he spoke about the relations between our countries.

A cooperation agreement between the foreign ministries of Cuba and the Yemen Arab Republic was signed this afternoon. The agreement emphasizes the possibility of increasing bilateral relations between the two countries in the fields of education, culture, art, science, and sports. Isidoro Malmierca Peoli, Cuban foreign minister, signed the agreement for Cuba.

[Begin recording al-Iryani in vernacular with simultaneous Spanish translation] My visit to this country of combatants is an expression of the common objectives and principles which unite us as the two Third World states that we are, members of the Nonaligned Movement, since we have common positions in the international and regional sphere. [end recording]

Attorney General on Social Indiscipline, Fines
FL0710214588 Havana Tele-Rebelde Network in Spanish 1147 GMT 7 Oct 88

[Interview with Attorney General Dr Ramon de la Cruz Ochoa by Roberto Agudo for the "Revista de la Manana" program; date not given—recorded]

[Text] [Agudo] Doctor, one of our questions is this: Why don't we act more forcefully or systematically against some of these acts of social indiscipline? That is one of the main concerns.

[Cruz] Well, your question is a very interesting one. You ask why don't we act more forcefully. Of course, when we talk about force, we talk about enforcing the law with legal instruments—nothing else.

You have brought up a point that I think is very important, namely, systematization. First of all, we must really keep in mind that the police, alone, cannot fight this problem. The phenomenon requires that all authorities—and I would say all the population, all the political organizations—fight this problem. I think that you are pointing to something that has to do with action by the police. I could give you some figures, which I find interesting, on the number of fines given by the police in 1 month, for example. It is a substantial number. The number of fines given by the police on a monthly basis throughout the country [words indistinct] the problem of indiscipline, for example. I can tell you that in August the police gave 32,047 fines. I, and some other people as well, might say that is not enough. But neither is it insignificant for the police to give 32,000 fines in a single month. These are only fines given to the public. I am not talking about the other Ministry of the Interior departments. However, the police are not the only ones who give fines. There are also departments like the National Assembly of the People's Government [ANPP], for

example, that have a great role to play in these problems of social indiscipline. I think they do not give enough fines. For example, there is the problem with the decree on public (?beautification). It is so important, but it is violated by so many people. The decree deals with caring for social property, parks, avenues, transportation vehicles, etc. However, in the month of August there were only 3,342 fines given throughout the entire country. This number is obviously insufficient. I could continue giving you examples of decrees involving several other departments, not only the police, that do not give enough fines. What happens is that, obviously, the police are responsible for public order, which is very important. I think all the state administration organs that are authorized to give fines must be restructured [replantear]. The whole state apparatus must be restructured [words indistinct] more offensive, more aggressive within the framework of the law, of course, for the law to play its coercive role in enforcing social discipline.

[Agudo] Doctor, you mentioned an interesting point that has also been raised by the citizens. For example, the number of fines given by the police.... [changes thought] This is actually two questions. Are the fines paid, and if not, what can be done with this kind of two-time offender? You also made reference to the role of the ANPP inspectors. Do they really enforce the law, or is there also certain indolence in that area?

[Cruz] Well, regarding the payment of fines, I would say it is not going the way we would like. They are getting paid. There is a general (?percentage) of the population that pays the fines. However, there are some provinces that have some very bad records on this. Approximately 50 percent of the fines are not being paid. The law clearly delineates what happens if the fine is not paid. The law states that if the fine is not paid within the specified period of time, the amount of the fine will be doubled. The law even states that if the fine is not paid at all, you must deduct it from the offender's salary, under duress. If he doesn't work, you can even seize assets. Finally, if nothing can be obtained under duress, he can be sent to court. The courts can sentence him to obligatory correctional work.

What happens is that there are provinces, such as Havana Province, where there is not enough action on the part of the organizations that are responsible for controlling this problem of the fines. The responsible organizations are the departments of the ANPP in the provinces and municipalities. They need a more (?practical) approach to the collection of fines. The methods and means for collecting the fines have been delineated. From a legal stance, we also know what needs to be done when there is no way to [words indistinct] which is to send them to court. This is not done enough. [Passage indistinct] Havana City. We are observing this situation because we know the departments of the ANPP need to take a more practical approach toward this problem of fines. An approach must be taken such that the fines are not only given but paid as well, which is the important thing.

[Agudo] There is a very interesting subject [words indistinct] exceptional in the ICRT [Cuban Institute of Radio and Television], in television. Although, we must frankly admit that.... [changes thought] this level of social indiscipline has been decreasing. For example, there are youths who ride on top of the omnibuses. One of my film crew comrades reminded me that in (Copelia), for example, on any Saturday or Sunday, you can see this phenomenon. Without a doubt, this is a case of social indiscipline by youths. I would like to ask you, Doctor, can youths be fined?

[Cruz] Of course, youths who do not work or support themselves with other means cannot be fined. However, if they are minors, under 16 years of age, the law dictates that their parents are responsible for their behavior. So, if we see a youth who does not respect laws and the norms of coexistence, we hold their parents responsible. The fines must be paid by parents. The parents must assume complete legal responsibility for unlawful acts by their children. We must work harder on this aspect so that parents become more responsible, because sometimes they do not have control over their children. They do not know what their children are up to. I think we must work harder on this and create an awareness and action so that parents respond better when their children commit an act of social indiscipline.

[Agudo] That's right. I cited for you the case of the youths riding on top of the omnibuses. However, we could mention acts of social indiscipline inside the buses, in a park, like you said a few moments ago, or in a particular social circle. We can also refer to those who paint on the walls, or stick their foot out to trip someone, or those who do not behave properly. We might also note persons who give parties in certain areas without permission and let the parties continue beyond the authorized hours. We have the mechanisms to fight [passage indistinct]

[Cruz] [Words indistinct] we have all the legal mechanisms to fight that kind of indiscipline, whether the act is commited by an adult or a minor. In the case of a minor, the parents are obviously responsible.

[Agudo] Without a doubt, Doctor, this is an important subject. It is a subject being discussed by the public, not only in Havana City, but also in the rest of the country. As Dr De la Cruz was saying, this is an issue of global, collective responsibility in which you have a specific responsibility and so do we.

Dominican Republic

Citizens Express Support for Antidrug Campaign

FL1010171788 Santo Domingo Radio Mil Network in Spanish 1009 GMT 10 Oct 88

[Text] The unprecedented campaign against the trafficking and consumption of drugs, which has been undertaken by the Armed Forces and the country's official

organizations, is receiving decisive support from the citizens of the Dominican Republic. This campaign against the criminal business of drugs is concentrated in Santiago and San Francisco de Macoris, which are considered to be zones of (?refuge) for international drug traffickers.

Support has been expressed in all the nation's sectors for the campaign against drug trafficking and authorities have been called upon to take their actions to the limit.

In several antidrug marches held this weekend by sports and cultural clubs in Santo Domingo, much support was expressed for the appropriate organizations responsible for the anti-drug campaign.

General Favors Death Penalty

FL1010174088 Santo Domningo Radio Mil Network in Spanish 1026 GMT 10 Oct 88

[Text] Santiago—The chief of the northern command of the police, which has its headquarters in this city, favors the death penalty for those criminals involved in the traffic and consumption of drugs.

General (Salomon del Monte Sapares) said that drug traffickers should be made to disappear from the planet because their actions corrupt youth. Gen (Del Monte Sapares) said that the only solution to drug traffickers is death to prevent them from continuing to (?assassinate) youths.

The chief of the northern command said that drug traffickers should be treated for what they are, criminals who have no compassion for anything or anyone. The general called for the creation of a contingent comprised of all sectors and [words indistinct] of the country to fight the trafficking and consumption of drugs.

In reference to the Cibao area, especially Santiago, he said that drug traffickers will be pursued without hesitation and this has been agreed upon by all authorities.

Haiti

Foreign Minister Addresses UN, Appeals for Aid

FL1210133788 Port-au-Prince Radio Metropole in French 1600 GMT 11 Oct 88

[Text] Speaking at the United Nations yesterday, Haitian Foreign Minister Serges Elie Charles urgently called on the entire international community, friendly countries, and specialized agencies of the United Nations to mobilize the resources necessary to promote a return to sustained growth in Haiti following years of stagnation.

After pointing out that Haiti is ranked among the least advanced countries, Mr Charles said that the only policy possible was one aimed at establishing durable foundations for a rule of law and freedom, while attacking the structural causes of abject poverty.

In an appeal, the Haitian foreign minister also explained that the cutoff of international aid for the past year, in addition to the considerable material damage caused by Hurricane Gilbert, has perceptibly aggravated Haiti's financial difficulties.

Mr Charles also stressed the fact that in his country, Haiti, a political dialogue among all the political and spiritual families and the government, which wishes to seal a pact of national reconciliation, has been established.

Organizations To Demonstrate for Father Aristide

FL1210201088 Port-au-Prince Radio Metropole in French 1600 GMT 12 Oct 88

[Excerpts] Several political associations held a press conference this morning to give their opinion on Father Aristide's transfer. Mobile Unit 19 was present:

[Begin reporter recording] [Passage omitted] Indeed, several democratic organizations, such as Feneh [National Federation of Haitian Students], CATH [Autonomous Organization of Haitian Workers], KID [Confederation for Democratic Unity], and ANOP [National Association of People's Organizations], got together this morning and held a press conference at CATH headquarters on this transfer order issued to Father Aristide, who is to leave Haiti before next 17 October.

These associations vigorously condemned the Catholic Church hierarchy, holding it responsible for this transfer. They said that it is the Haitian bishops who are responsible for this situation.

They also said they were going to organize a series of demonstrations both in Port-au-Prince and in the provinces to protest the transfer of Father Aristide. They declared that Father Aristide is not going anywhere, no matter the pretext. [passage omitted] [end recording]

More Reaction; Rally Planned

FL1210210488 Port-au-Prince Radio Soleil Network in Creole 1100 GMT 12 Oct 88

[Excerpts] There has been reaction to the decision to transfer Father Aristide and get him to leave Haiti before 17 October as he himself said in a press release he brought us here Monday morning.

The Fraternity of Priests in Cap Haitien reacted to two things. They reacted both to what is going on in Mont Organise and took a stand on the transfer of Father Aristide. We remind listeners that a group of 30 priests, the Fraternity of Priests in the South, has protested to Catholic Church authorities in Haiti and in Rome against the order by Father Aristide's superiors. [passage omitted]

A letter from 55 youths in Limonade, in northern Haiti, asks the Salesian authorities to reconsider their decision regarding Father Aristide, so that he may remain in Haiti. [passage omitted]

The National Organization for the Defense of the Young [Ornadej] also reacted to this matter, as well as to the message put out by the bishops over the weekend. [passage omitted]

The grassroots church, St Joseph parish, calls on all priests and clergymen who wish to remain faithful to the Medellin and Puebla resolutions to take a stand against Father Jean Bertrand Aristide's transfer.

For its part, the People's National Assembly [APN] says it is organizing a demonstration of solidarity with Father Aristide for Friday. The demonstration will begin in front of St Jean Bosco [Church] at 1000. APN says that Father Aristide is the priest of all nationalistic Haitians, all Christians who do not want to live on their knees, and everyone struggling to change the poverty, exploitation, and injustice in Haiti. The National Alliance of People's Organizations, ANOP, supports the APN's call for a demonstration on Friday. [passage omitted]

KID Denounces Transfer

FL1210212188 Port-au-Prince Radio Nationale in Creole 1300 GMT 12 Oct 88

[Excerpts] [Passage omitted] The Confederation for Democratic Unity [KID] has issued a press release in which it asks if the Catholic Church hierarchy is saying that Franck Romain was right. KID asks the Haitian people to rise up against the position taken by the Episcopal Conference of Haiti in its note published in the press on Sunday, 9 October 1988, in which it ignored the popular sector of the church.

KID questions whether a sector can ask that macoutes be brought to trial while it simultaneously protects the macoutes within itself. KID does not understand how the church hierarchy can take the same position as the former mayor of Port-au-Prince—saying that the popular church is preaching violence. Are they saying that the criminals who burned down the church and murdered the faithful on Sunday, 11 September, were right in doing so?

KID will never be able to understand why the high-ranking church authorities are forcing Father Aristide to leave Haiti just as Father Poirier is returning to Haiti. [passage omitted]

KID thinks that the diverse macoute actions and presence in different parts of Haiti—such as in Cap Haitien, Petite Riviere de l'Artibonite, Port-de-Paix, Jean-Rabel, (Belance), and so forth—(?resemble) the position of the church hierarchy, (?in view of the way) the hierarchy is attacking the masses and in view of its persistence in exiling Father Aristide (?and trying to) make everyone believe they [not further identified] want to crush the 17 September movement.

KID thinks that all patriotic members of the Armed Forces, serious patriots, popular organizations, and patriotic Christians should rise up in order to prevent the enemies of democracy from continuing to (?balk) at the will of the Haitian people.

(Jean Woel Brice) and (Louis Emilio Passe) signed this note, which was sent to us here at RTNH [Radio Tele-Diffusion Nationale d'Haiti].

Armed Forces Notice on Firearms Permits Issued

FL1210184088 Port-au-Prince Radio Nationale in Creole 1300 GMT 11 Oct 88

[Text] A notice from the Haitian Armed Forces [FADH] General Headquarters in Port-au-Prince dated 10 October 1988 informs all holders of a firearm or airgun permit issued to them by the FADH in accordance with the law of 22 December 1922 that the permits allowing an individual to carry firearms will be renewed for the 1988-89 fiscal year beginning in November. The deadline for renewing these permits at FADH General Headquarters is 31 December 1988. If the permit is not renewed before the deadline, the request to renew will be refused and the weapon in an individual's possession will be confiscated by the Army.

Also, the notice informs anyone who would like to have a permit to carry a firearm that a new structure and new regulations specifying the conditions for the weapon's purchase and use have been established. The FADH General Headquarters says that it will give the public information on the mechanisms permitting a person to possess a weapon—on how it can be bought and how a permit can be obtained for it.

This is a communique from the FADH General Headquarters in Port-au-Prince signed by Roland Chavannes, G-2.

Capital City Hall To Take 'Important Measures'

FL1210212588 Port-au-Prince Radio Nationale in Creole 1300 GMT 11 Oct 88

[Text] Port-au-Prince city hall employees have issued a press release in which they demand that the communal council headed by Mrs Carmen Christophe resign. According to the note, the grounds are incompetence, corruption, and immorality. The employees demand a new council made up of honest, worthy people capable of properly managing the community and chosen by the competent authorities alone. The press release bears 110 signatures.

For its part, the communal council of Port-au-Prince says in its own press release that despite the good faith the council has exhibited since it was installed and despite the fact that they (?presented their excuses to) the employees (?because of) the great difficulties they are encountering in planning the payroll, city hall personnel have shown themselves to be not very understanding by refusing to cooperate with the communal council. The council thus informs the public that it will take important measures today so that city hall can provide the proper services. The council adds that these measures will not affect employees who have shown their good faith thus far.

This press release is signed by Mrs Carmen Christophe.

Government Announces 1988-89 Operating Budget
FL1210213688 Port-au-Prince Radio Soleil Network in Creole 1100 GMT 10 Oct 88

[Text] Yesterday in Port-au-Prince, the Haitian Government made public Haiti's new operating budget for the fiscal year covering the period from 1 October 1988 to 30 September 1989. It totals 1,334,700,000 gourdes—that is, $266.9 million.

Expenditures for investment have been fixed at $14.4 million, operating expenses are calculated at $232.4 million, and the amortization of the debt is $20.1 million.

Witness on Death of Luc B. Innocent
FL1210175488 Port-au-Prince Radio Soleil Network in Creole 1100 GMT 11 Oct 88

[Excerpt] [Passage omitted] Haitian opposition leader Luc B. Innocent was killed by the Army while he was holding a meeting Saturday in the company of seven companions at a house in Terre Froide, and not during an attack on the military post at Fond Verrettes in southeastern Haiti. In statements appearing in the Dominican newspaper LISTIN DIARIO, Jean Reynold, a Haitian, said that he was part of the group that entered Haiti from the Dominican Republic. He denied that the group had attacked a military post.

We did not go to Haiti with weapons. We went to talk to the Haitian people to make them understand that the Duvalier dictatorship was still present in Haiti, Reynold said.

Mr Reynold did not identify the people who died, but said that others were wounded—among them a young man called King Kong, and two other partisans of Mr Innocent, Nestlie Claude and Nodvia Pi Leger. According to Reynold, two Haitian preachers of the Evangelical Church served as guides for the group and led the group from the Dominican Republic across the border to Terre Froide. When they arrived, members of the opposition met with other members of the Revolutionary Unity Movement at a house, where the Army surprised them. Reynold said that the Army machinegunned them.

Mr Reynold also asked for protection from Dominican President Joaquin Balaguer and said that he did not know what had become of the two preachers, whom he said were in the Terre Froide area. Mr Innocent had asked for political asylum in the Dominican Republic last 5 April, saying that he was being persecuted by the tonton macoutes and by the repressive organizations of the Manigat government, which was overthrown last 19 June. [passage omitted]

De la Madrid Congratulates Gorbachev on New Post

PA1210233988 Mexico City EXCELSIOR in Spanish 4 Oct 88 pp 4, 36

[Text] President Miguel de la Madrid yesterday sent a message to Mikhail Gorbachev congratulating him on his appointment as chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium and wishing him success in "the task of making peace prevail throughout the world."

The following is the full text of the message:

"Please receive my cordial congratulations on the occasion of your appointment as chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium. I wish you success in the new and important responsibilities you have acquired and in your efforts to achieve modernization and to promote the progress of the people that comprise the USSR. I also wish you success in the task of making peace prevail throughout the world."

1989-91 Debt Payments To Total $48 Billion

PA0710153988 Mexico City UNOMASUNO in Spanish 3 Oct 88 pp 1, 15

[Article by J. Antonio Zuniga]

[Text] Reports by the Mexican Secretariat of Finance and Public Credit and the Bank of Mexico indicate that in the first 3 years of the next 6-year term, Mexico will have to pay a little over $48 billion to service its foreign debt. In foreign currency, this is nearly equal to the total 1983-86 crude oil export revenue.

According to the terms of payment noted in a secretariat report, the interest payments will amount to $27.09 billion from 1989 to 1991. Morever, $20.915 billion will be used to amortize the foreign debt's principal during the same period.

In a situation marked by lower foreign exchange because of the state of foreign trade, a negative balance of payments caused by a lack of revenues from new loans and a constant drop in international reserves—despite their high levels—servicing the foreign debt has become the chief obstacle to national economic growth.

During the 1st year of the next administration, the amount needed to service the foreign debt has been officially estimated at $15.055 billion, of which $8.702 billion is for interest payments and $6.353 billion is needed to amortize the principal.

At a time when the international oil price is less than $10 a barrel—the lowest level since 1986—the total amount to service the foreign debt next year will be $3 billion, or 24.9 percent of gross foreign exchange reserves, which amounted to $12.05 billion on 31 August 1988.

Although interest payments in 1989 will basically depend on the fluctuations of the LIBOR [London Interbank Offering Rate] rate and the U.S. prime rate, Mexico must pay $3.728 billion in amortization to creditor commercial banks, $1.808 billion to "other creditors," both private and public, and $736 million to the IMF.

Foreign exchange to be received from trade in 1988 has been estimated at $4.8 billion, which is equivalent to 32.2 percent of the commercial surplus at the beginning of the currrent administration in 1983.

In accordance with the official payment schedule, the total foreign debt service will be $16.414 billion in 1990 and $16.536 billion in 1991.

The foreign debt problem requires Mexico to borrow an amount in the next few years at least equal to that required to service its foreign debt if the country is to be able to use resources from commerce, manufacturing, and tourism to finance activities leading to economic growth.

According to the official payment schedule and the Bank of Mexico, the country will have transferred abroad $87.9602 billion, including interest and amortization, in the 6-year period about to end. Between 1983 and 1988, $56.8393 billion will have been paid in interest alone. This amount is very close to the $55.7 billion estimated for the commercial surplus accrued during the same period as the result of constant devalutions and the strong emphasis on nonoil exports. This sector has depended for a long time on the import of secondary raw materials and capital goods.

Considering the oil export price is a fifth of what it was at the beginning of the decade, the total payment of the foreign debt service in the 1st year of the next 6-year period will depend more on creditors' political willingness to lend so Mexico can grow and pay than on the country's domestic efforts.

Pemex Reports Oil Export Revenue Decline

PA1010182988 Mexico City Red Nacional 13 Imevision Television in Spanish 0130 GMT 10 Oct 88

[Summary] Pemex has reported that oil export prices declined $3.84 per barrel from January to September 1988. This price drop has resulted in a loss of $1.536 billion in revenue compared to the same period last year. Pemex added that oil export volume during this period declined by 44,000 barrels a day. In the 1st 9 months of 1988, the country earned $4.709 billion from the sale of oil and oil by-products. On average, 1.3 million barrels a day were exported during this period.

Costa Rica

Government Minister on Panama Border Incident

PA1210201788 San Jose Radio Impacto in Spanish 1830 GMT 12 Oct 88

[Text] Government and Police Minister Antonio Alvarez Desanti said this morning that he would be pleased if the government decided that the Public Security Ministry should assume responsibility for surveillance at the Coto Brus border community because this is a job for that ministry.

Alvarez made the statement during a news conference in reference to the incident that took place yesterday in the area bordering Panama when two Panamanian military patrols invaded Costa Rican territory and intercepted [as heard] Planning Minister Jorge Monge and his retinue. This is causing a diplomatic incident.

The government minister gave the following version of the developments:

[Begin Alvarez recording, in progress] ... yesterday morning, when he began the meeting and was (?preparing) to tour the area. I had asked the Rural Guard in the area to accompany him and give him all the support he might need. In the afternoon, he contacted my office but we were unable to talk. I tried to contact him later and the information I have is that two Panamanian Government patrols detained him inside our territory. I do not know of any detailed or exhaustive report he may have presented to me.

What we have already decided in conjunction with the Public Security Ministry is that we will continue—because we have already begun doing so—reinforcing the border.

Also, we are waiting, probably, for a Security Council meeting to be held to analyze this case and to also see what measures the Foreign Ministry might take. [end recording]

Alvarez also explained why the Rural Police, and not the Civil Police, are in charge of surveillance in Coto Brus.

[Begin Alvarez recording] We are in charge of surveillance because the residents asked us. Rather, they demanded that a Civil Police command post be established there. The guarding of the borders should definitely be the responsibility of the (?Public Security Ministry). The Rural Police are supposed to conduct different kinds of actions, operations, and activities. We would be very pleased if the Public Security Ministry would be responsible for surveillance in that area and the border area [words indistinct] our support is not required. [end recording]

El Salvador

Exiled UDN Leader Aguinada Carranza Returns

PA1210164588 [Editorial Report] San Salvador Canal Doce Television in Spanish at 0300 GMT on 12 October reports the 11 October return to El Salvador, "after 8 years in exile," of Mario Aguinada Carranza, secretary general of the Nationalist Democratic Union, UDN.

In a 3-minute statement at the San Salvador airport, Aguinada Carranza notes he is happy to be back in the fatherland following his "work abroad." He adds: "The work carried out by those who want the people's liberation is immense. We have prevented imperialism—the monster to the north—from securing support for the gang of traitors headed by Napoleon Duarte. Now I am here to join you, workers and peasants, to contribute to this struggle."

The report continues with a 1-minute recording of an interview granted by the UDN leader "at the conclusion of his statement." Aguinada notes that in returning he knows he will face the risks that being a politician in El Salvador entails because "here some politicians are assassins and others are thieves. I am somewhat concerned, but mostly happy and satisfied."

Aguinada Carranza notes that he came to the country "to express my opinion, to hold discussions, and to search for a solution to the crisis."

The report continues with a 3-minute recording of an interview with Armed Forces Commander General Adolfo Blandon, who states that the return of Aguinada Carranza is a result of a "political decision that the Armed Forces will respect." Gen Blandon adds: "I will honestly say that neither the members of the Armed Forces nor I like the presence of this [FMLN] commander in the country, but we are making every effort to contribute to the democratic process, and this is one more effort."

Blandon warned that "the terrorist organization is of such a Machiavellian nature that it could organize an attack on Aguinada Carranza to blame the Army or some other democratic organization for political purposes. This is one danger that will exist. From the moment he arrives in the country, anything could happen. However, this is a risk that all politicians face."

The report concludes with a 1-minute recording of portions of an interview with Nationalist Republican Alliance leader Sigfrido Ochoa Perez. The announcer quotes Ochoa as saying that his party "has no objection to the arrival of the leftist leader" but also warns that Aguinada Carranza's presence "could endanger the democratic process."

D'Aubuisson Comments

PA1210183588 San Salvador DIARIO LATINO in Spanish 12 Oct 88 p 3

[Excerpt] Asked his opinion about the return to El Salvador of Mario Aguinada, secretary general of the Nationalist Democratic Union, ARENA [Nationalist Republican Alliance] leader Roberto D'Aubuisson said yesterday: "I do not endorse Mario Aguinada's return, but I do not oppose it."

"I have nothing to say, although I think this is part of these gentlemen's strategy. Their international leftist allies will demand that they put some distance between themselves and their FMLN colleagues to improve their image in this country and abroad," the ARENA deputy said. He stressed that Aguinada is coming to engage in politics, "and I do the same thing in ARENA." [passage omitted]

Honduras

Lopez Contreras on Costa Rican Stand on Proposal

PA1210194288 Tegucigalpa Televisora Hondurena in Spanish 0100 GMT 12 Oct 88

[Report on "exclusive" statement by Foreign Minister Carlos Lopez Contreras—date and place not given]

[Text] Costa Rican President Oscar Arias Sanchez has spoken out against the Honduran proposal at the United Nations. We have an exclusive statement from Honduran Foreign Minister Carlos Lopez Contreras on the Costa Rican reaction:

[Begin Lopez recording] It seems very strange to me. At the Esquipulas negotiations, the Costa Rican Government supported the idea of an international commission made up of the same three countries that Honduras has suggested. In a way, I feel there is a certain lack of consistency in the Costa Rican position; nevertheless, we respect their position. Perhaps they are a bit concerned because they believe thousands of armed men or refugees would suddenly move into Costa Rica. This is certainly not what the Honduran proposal envisages. According to our proposal, an international peacekeeping force would be established, the armed groups would move into their own countries, and then a negotiated solution between the armed opposition and the established government would be sought.

It is not right for us to receive all the problems from our neighboring countries and then be left alone to solve them. This is just one reason why Honduras is seeking the help of an international force.

Presently, when armed opposition groups seek sanctuary in neighboring countries such as ours, the government the groups oppose asks that the Honduran Government not allow the armed opposition groups to use Honduran territory. If our government allows those groups to use its territory, it is accused of violating international law. On the other hand, if through its Armed Forces it does not allow the use of its territory, then our government is accused of violating human rights or even of massacring armed groups that are opposed to their countries' governments. [end recording]

Nicaragua

Ramirez Urges Resumption of Talks After Summit

PA1210151188 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1200 GMT 12 Oct 88

[Text] Nicaraguan Vice President Sergio Ramirez yesterday reiterated to Cardinal Miguel Obando y Bravo the government's decision to resume the national reconciliation process after the Central American presidential summit in November.

In a letter, Ramirez explained that prior to resuming meetings of the National Reconciliation Commission [CRN], presided over by Obando y Bravo, the Central American presidents should be briefed on the U.S. Government's aggressive military moves and efforts to destabilize Nicaragua. Nicaragua's efforts to achieve peace have been thwarted, Ramirez said, because the Reagan administration is determined to arm the mercenary forces and to create a climate of domestic destabilization by financing political parties that are hostile to national sovereignty.

Ramirez reiterated that the U.S. aggression will hinder the climate of harmony and understanding so desired by the Nicaraguan people. The vice president said the U.S. aggression is one of the issues the Central American presidents should be briefed on prior to resuming the CRN's meetings and work, in accordance with the executive decree that created the CRN.

Cardinal Urged To Explain Use of AID Funds

PA1210173888 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1200 GMT 12 Oct 88

[Station commentary]

[Text] The statements that the archbishop's spokesman, Msgr Bismark Carballo, was kind enough to make shed some light on the relationship between the AID's dollars and Cardinal Obando y Bravo's intended use of those funds. It is clear, however, that there remain many unanswered questions and dark areas.

In the interest of avoiding misinterpretations by the people, we feel that it is essential that Cardinal Obando y Bravo himself, the highest authority in the curia, clarify matters by answering the following questions:

1. What does the text of the Sapoa agreements say regarding the verification process?

2. Has an agreement on verification been reached during the talks between the government and the contras?

3. What are the responsibilities assigned to the Verification Commission?

4. Who are the more than 100 people who, according to the cardinal, are already engaged in verification? How long have they been performing that task, and what kind of remuneration do they receive for their work?

5. What are they verifying, if the contras have accepted neither the cease-fire nor regrouping in the zones specified in the Sapoa agreement?

6. Does the cardinal have an office in Miami? If so, who staffs it, what is their budget, and what are they verifying over there?

7. How many dollars has the archbishop's staff received from AID?

EPS Repels 9 Contra Attacks 6-10 Oct

PA1210173188 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1200 GMT 12 Oct 88

[Text] Nine mercenary attacks were repelled by EPS troops between 6 and 10 October in (?La Fonseca), Santa Teresa, and Cielo Azul neighborhoods in the western part of Nueva Guinea, and in (?Rio Almacen) and El Bambu in central Zelaya Department.

A bulletin issued by the EPS 5th Military Region public relations office points out that on 8 October in (El Penalon), in the South Atlantic region, the EPS seized a contra arms cache that contained 20 60-mm mortar grenades, 17 RPG-7 missiles, 6 booby traps, and 2 57-mm antitank guns. The bulletin added that on 6 October, a group of contras stole 20 head of cattle from peasants in La Estrella neighborhood in the northwestern part of Wapi.

Panama

'Son of Panama' Criticizes Noriega, U.S.

PA1310000788 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1744 GMT 12 Oct 88

[Text] Tegucigalpa, 12 Oct (ACAN-EFE)—In Tegucigalpa today, an individual, who has only identified himself as "a son of Panama," released a message warning the United States that if it keeps on exerting military and economic pressure on his country, the Panamanian people will become its "most dangerous and aggressive enemy in the hemisphere."

The unidentified "son of Panama" sent his message to Honduran media sources and to international press agencies. The one-page printed message is addressed to "the U.S. Government and people and to the conscientious Spanish- and English-speaking U.S. public."

The message states that a call "is being made to the great U.S. community by a humble son of a tiny country named Panama." The call coincides with today's Columbus Day celebrations.

The "son of Panama" asks whether it is fair for the more than 2 million people who live in his country to be paying for the actions of a "power hungry" man (General Manuel Antonio Noriega) and an "arrogant" government (the United States.) The "son of Panama" adds that the United States is not acting the way a powerful nation should act.

The unidentified individual adds that if a Panamanian does not behave properly, he must "be punished at the right time, in the right place, and in the right way." However, this punishment should not be accompanied by military threats or economic pressure.

The "son of Panama" asserts that the United States must bear in mind that "if it continues to punish an innocent nation, it will turn this Third World country into its most dangerous and aggressive enemy in the hemisphere."

At the same time, the "son of Panama" urges the Panamanian Government and its Armed Forces to "take the first step toward creating an authentic democracy."

The "son of Panama" does not specify if his war is being fought from Honduras, nor does he explain the reasons that led him to release his message in this Central American country.

Argentina

Caridi on 'Concern' Over Trials, Salaries

PY1210140388 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1330 GMT 11 Oct 88

[Text] Buenos Aires, 11 Oct (NA)—Today Army Chief of Staff General Dante Caridi said there is an "artificial overemphasis" of the natural "concern" of the Army members concerning court summons and low salaries. Caridi deemed the behavior of the military lawyers of the Monte Caseros rebels as "deplorable." He explained that if there is no one to defend the accused, "the court will appoint a defense attorney."

Regarding the Army budget, Caridi admitted that if funds are not received, "there may be problems drafting" soldiers next year. He added: "We need some help."

Speaking to Radio Rivadavia, Caridi stated that "as far as the development of military activities scheduled for this year is concerned, the situation in the Army is absolutely normal."

He admitted that since he took over "certain issues have, indeed, given rise to some concern: the trials related to the antisubversive struggle, wages, and the budget."

He added: "Although these issues have been a prime source of concern for the military leadership and of all the members of my branch, I have been noticing that these days there has been an artificial overemphasis concerning the atmosphere created by the aforementioned issues. I do not know why this is."

He said that "given our concern over this situation, we believe that we will be able to find professional solutions to it."

He went on to say that the trials of military men "are one of the sources of concern. We have warned that they may not be favorable to the normal development of Army activities. We have conveyed our concerns to the appropriate spheres, and I believe that we will attain a satisfactory solution with everyone's help."

Caridi also addressed the issue of salaries and the Armed Forces budget. He stated: "We have already said that military wages are very low. I read in this Sunday's issue of a morning daily that the Defense Ministry has made this abundantly clear. Therefore, we all know where we stand."

Caridi warned that "unless we get some help with our budget, we will be facing very serious shortages next year, to the point that the draft may be jeopardized."

On the recent resignation of the lawyers who were defending the Monte Caseros rebels, Caridi said that those lawyers "acted in keeping with military laws and in this regard everything is normal."

He emphasized, however, that "I do not understand how a lawyer can accept the job of defending someone and then try to get out of it on whatever grounds simply because the brief does not satisfy him. That is truly deplorable."

Caridi added that "this situation will be resolved according to the rules: If nobody wants to defend the culprits the court will appoint defense attorneys."

Group in U.S. To Negotiate Loan Disbursement

PY1210181888 Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 12 Oct 88

[Text] An Argentine delegation is in the United States to expedite a $1.250-billion stand-by agreement with the IMF and the disbursement of a $500-million bridge loan granted by Washington.

The delegation, which is headed by Central Bank President Jose Machinea and (Daniel Bark), one of the bank directors, has begun a round of talks. The Argentine position is more advantageous than in the talks that led to the agreement reached with the World Bank last month and to the granting of a loan by the U.S. Treasury.

Deputy Asks Caputo To Report on British Assets

PY1210170288 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1508 GMT 12 Oct 88

[Text] Buenos Aires, 12 Oct (NA)—Today Peronist Deputy Ruben Cardozo sent a telegram to Argentine Foreign Minister Dante Caputo asking him once more to "fulfill his promise" to report to the Chamber of Deputies on the value of British assets in Argentina.

Cardozo reminded the journalists that 6 months ago, during the questioning that Caputo underwent in the Chamber of Deputies because of the British military maneuvers on the Malvinas Islands called "Fire Focus," the foreign minister "promised, in response to my request, to supply this information within 15 days."

The deputy for Santa Fe added that he had also asked Caputo about the funds that British companies in Argentina transfer abroad every year and about the foreign debt payments that Argentina is making to Great Britain.

Berhongaray in USSR; Meets CPSU's Zagladin

PY1210134288 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 0305 GMT 12 Oct 88

[Text] Moscow, 11 Oct (TELAM)—At the Kremlin today Zakash Kamalidenov, deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet, met with Argentine Senate Defense Committee Chairman Antonio Berhongaray. The two leaders analyzed Soviet-Argentine relations in various fields.

It was reported that Kamalidenov and Berhongaray stressed that the progressive strengthening of the relations between the representatives of the two governments has made an outstanding contribution to the preservation of world security and to the promotion of mutual Soviet-Argentine understanding.

After analyzing the international situation, the two leaders agreed on the need to accelerate nuclear disarmament, which was begun by the Soviet-U.S. INF treaty.

Vadim Zagladin, first deputy chief of the International Department of the CPSU Central Committee, also met with Berhongaray today. The agenda included a broad spectrum of international problems and the level of bilateral relations.

Zagladin and Berhongaray exchanged information on the military organization of their respective countries, stressing that the USSR respects Argentina's peace-seeking initiatives and its work within the Group of Six. It was pointed out that regional security is an important part of world peace.

Both sides expressed their firm belief that there can be no winner in a nuclear war and that, consequently, the only way toward a world without war is the political settlement of all controversies and international conflicts.

Treatment of Reporters in Chile Protested

PY1210145288 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1054 GMT 12 GMT 88

[Text] Buenos Aires, 12 Oct (NA)—Argentine Foreign Ministry sources today confirmed that the Argentine Government has conveyed its "deep concern" to the Chilean Government over the Chilean police repression against Argentine journalist who reported on last week's plebiscite, in which the victory of the no-vote prevented Pinochet from continuing in power.

In a four-paragraph note dated 8 October, Argentina demanded guarantees for Argentine journalists, some of whom were injured in the repression that occurred when demonstrators celebrated the victory of the no-vote.

The note, submitted to the Chilean Foreign Ministry by the Argentine Embassy in Santiago, states that the Argentine journalists, who were accredited to cover the plebiscite, were carrying their identification cards.

Last Friday, an Argentine television reporter was hit in the leg by a rubber bullet as he was passing a military unit located far from where the incidents occurred.

Sources consulted by NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS have said that a similar note was submitted by the United States.

Bolivia

Gen Mercado on Terrorism Controls, Drug Charges

PY1210210888 La Paz EL DIARIO in Spanish 6 Oct 88 p 1

[Excerpts] Army Commander General Romulo Mercado has reported that the national Armed Forces are strictly controlling the areas where terrorist activities could take place. [passage omitted]

Gen Mercado said that the Armed Forces, in compliance with their duties, have decided to adopt measures to prevent armed groups from operating in the country.

The Army commander said that so far there are no terrorist activities in Bolivia, but he did not rule out that possibility, given the characteristics of Bolivian territory.

Therefore, he said, the Army units in certain areas were instructed to exert stricter control in their areas, especially regarding strangers. [passage omitted]

Gen Mercado admitted that General Gustavo Arrazola, 7th Division commander, was relieved of his post because of investigations into his alleged participation in drug trafficking.

The Armed Forces commander is investigating the case of Gen Arrazola and 5 other officers also being tried on the same charges as Arrazola. [passage omitted]

Avianca Plane Hijacked; Chilean Arrested

PY1210225388 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2201 GMT 12 oct 88

[Text] La Paz, 12 Oct (TELAM-DPA)—A jetliner of the Colombian airline Avianca that was flying from Bogota to Santiago, Chile, was hijacked today and forced to La Paz by a Chilean passenger whom the Bolivian authorities described as a psychopath.

The Avianca jetliner made an emergency landing in La Paz at 1435 local time, and it is still on the ground at El Alto International Airport.

The Chilean hijacker, whose name was not disclosed for security reasons, attacked the plane commander during the flight, Bolivian authorities said.

The hijacker was arrested and taken to the Interior Ministry offices in La Paz.

'Brutal Police Repression' of Teachers' Protest

PY1210020588 La Paz La Red Panamericana in Spanish 0000 GMT 12 Oct 88

[Excerpt] As a consequence of brutal police repression against a group of teachers who were about to participate in a demonstration this afternoon, Maxima Braulia Coss has been seriously injured.

According to reports, this demonstration was staged at (Vicente Ajuariz Tieguino) Park in La Paz. As the teachers were walking toward the park, a group of policemen suddenly attacked them in an effort to disperse them. The policemen paid no attention to the possible consequences of their action, because they used their clubs and other implements they have for this type of work.

Leaders of the Confederation of Bolivian Urban Teachers have made this charge through their official spokesman, Javier Valdivieso, national executive member of the Confederation of Bolivian Urban Teachers.

[Begin Valdivieso recording] A police contingent began to beat the teachers, disregarding the shouts of other teachers referring to the day of women. These teachers were staging a legitimate protest over the government's adamant position.

As a result of this repression, a fellow teacher, Maxima Braulia Coss, has been seriously wounded and hospitalized at the Social Security Clinic in La Paz. [end recording] [passage omitted]

PRC Visitor on Cooperation Possibilities
PY1210143188 La Paz La Red Panamericana in Spanish 1130 GMT 12 Oct 88

[Text] The PRC, through the Tibetan Cooperation and Development Institute, will donate 3 tons of wheat and special barley seeds to Bolivia. The varieties to be donated are apt for sowing in high altitudes. The announcement was made on 11 October during a news conference held by members of the PRC delegation in the library of our Congress.

Erdini Qoigyi Gyaincain, vice chairman of the PRC's NPC [National People's Congress], through a translator discussed the fraternal relations that exist between the two countries and to the possibilities that have been opened in the field of cooperation, especially in the agricultural sector.

He also referred to the new international economic order, indicating that the need exists to impose a more equal system for the relations between the rich and poor countries.

The NPC's vice chairman indicated that the injustice that exists in the relations between the rich and poor nations is the main reason for the world's current lack of stability.

[Begin translator recording] Therefore, in order to achieve detente and stability, the developed countries must adopt a more positive attitude in order to help and cooperate with developing countries.

Some developed countries sell their products at very high prices and purchase raw materials at very low prices, and this makes the poor countries even poorer and the rich countries even richer. It also creates a [words indistinct] tension between the two sectors. [end recording]

Erdini Qoigyi Gyaincain stated that the poor countries must propose to the rich countries the payment of just prices for the former's raw materials and new guidelines for importing other products that the developing countries need for their progress.

He also stated that a balance must be established in the relations between rich and poor countries in order to establish peace.

Finally, he discussed the need to achieve and maintain peace in the world and the fact that the PRC is interested in helping achieve that peace.

The PRC delegation will travel to the city of Santa Cruz to hold talks with the authorities of Santa Cruz Department.

Producers Group Introduces New Coca Products
PY1210233388 La Paz PRESENCIA in Spanish 8 Oct 88 pp 1, 9

[Excerpts] Representatives of the Coca Industrialization Council (COINCOCA)—subordinated to the Yungas and Chapare Coca Producers Federation—arrived in La Paz to show four products produced from coca leaves that were authorized for production by the Ministry of Social Security and Public Health.

COINCOCA representatives Prudencio Ticona and Carlos Gonzalez told PRESENCIA that the council—with the support of Bolivian experts—was able to create a "coca syrup" (cost 2.50 bolivianos) that is good for physical and sexual fatigue, anemia, and other illnesses affecting physical and intellectual fitness.

Another product manufactured by COINCOCA is called "cocabetes" (cost, 18 bolivianos), a product good for diabetes because it reduces blood sugar levels and improves eyesight, according to Ticona and Gonzalez.

A product called "cocaestet" (cost, 4 bolivianos) is used to reduce weight. Finally, there is "coca wine" (cost, 4 bolivianos), a product created after submerging coca leaves into a liquid. This wine is particularly good because it does not have any "aftereffects"—it does not create the headaches typical of other kinds of wines—according to the COINCOCA representatives. [passage omitted]

Ticona explained that the bad name of coca comes from the "damaging use of coca leaves and cocaine paste, introduced into the country by drug traffickers" who "have tried to destroy the plant and its dignity."

This is one of the reasons coca producers decided to demonstrate that the coca leaves can not only be used to hurt people, but also to cure or treat sick people, Ticona said. [passage omitted]

Carlos Gonzalez said that they decided to manufacture new products using coca leaves to save the plant and to demonstrate that they reject the illicit manufacturing and trafficking of cocaine.

Gonzalez said he believes that an effective solution to the problem of peasants who plant coca in the Yungas and Chapare regions should include a program to develop legitimate commercial uses of the coca leaf.

Brazil

IMF Loan Disbursement 'May' Be Suspended

PY1210113988 Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 11 Oct 88 p 15

[Text] Brasilia—The disbursement of the next installment of the loan that the IMF has granted to Brazil is tied to the approval of a request for a waiver [preceding word in English], which the Brazilian Government will have to submit to the IMF due to the failure to fulfill the targets set for the nominal deficit during the July-September quarter. According to Thomas Reichmann, the head of the IMF mission which is visiting Brasilia, it is not entirely impossible that the IMF may suspend the disbursement of the second installment (of a $1.5 billion loan) scheduled for the end of November. The amount scheduled to be disbursed in November is approximately $45 million.

Reichmann and the other members of the IMF mission spent yesterday putting together the information that they have gathered on the behavior of the Brazilian economy in order to draw up the annual report on Brazil in keeping with Article 4 of the IMF Charter. Reichmann stated that he will get in touch with Finance Minister Mailson da Nobrega and Planning Minister Joao Batista de Abreu at a date yet to be set.

This morning, the members of the mission will go to the Central Bank to draw up their working agenda for the next few days.

The IMF has not yet been officially informed of the failure of the Brazilian Government to fulfill the objectives of the program of adjustments. Yesterday Reichmann explained that it will be necessary to await the final information on the July-September quarter in order to formally confirm that the targets have not been met. Had it wanted to avoid having to request a waiver, the Brazilian Government should have asked the IMF in advance to revise the targets that the program set for the July-September quarter. It has not done so.

UAE Minister Meets With Sarney, Sodre

JN1310084488 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0700 GMT 13 Oct 88

[Text] Brasilia, 13 Oct (WAKH)—Rashid 'Abdallah, UAE minister of state for foreign affairs, met with Brazilian President Jose Sarney last night.

Rashid 'Abdallah has also met with Brazilian Foreign Minister Roberto Costa de Abreu Sodre as well as the head of the higher federal court, the president of the Chamber of Deputies, and a number of senior Brazilian officials. During these meetings, they discussed relations between the UAE and Brazil and ways to enhance them in various fields.

Paraguay Negotiating Purchase of Arms

PY1210144488 Sao Paulo FOLHA DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 11 Oct 88 p A-10

[By Roberto Lopes]

[Text] The Paraguayan Government is currently negotiating with Brazil a "package deal" through which it hopes to purchase Brazilian armaments including tanks, military jeeps, and a dozen armored antiriot vehicles. The cost of the deal is estimated at more than $40 million (22.2 billion cruzados at the parallel exchange rate).

General Alfredo Stroessner's Army has been in touch with the executives of the Bernardini Co. in Sao Paulo, which manufactures the Tamoio-3 medium tank. In addition to the 12 armored antiriot vehicles, the Paraguayan Government wants 20 Tamoio tanks and 40 military jeeps equipped with Toyota engines that Bernardini produces. Each antiriot vehicle is worth between $800,000 and $1 million; the basic price of a tank is $1.5 million and the jeeps are worth $19,000 each.

The Bernardini Co. is also trying to interest the Uruguayan Army in some of its products. During the first half of this year, Ecuador looked into purchasing Tamoio-3 tanks. The country, however, finally chose the Argentine- made TAM [Argentine Medium Tank], which was offered at below-market prices.

Last year, the Brazilian Bar Association (OAB) reported that a Rio Grande do Sul company was selling armored antiriot vehicles to General Augusto Pinochet's military regime. The Paraguayan Police have 6,000 men to patrol the capital and an antiriot unit—the so-called special forces—all of them headquartered in Asuncion. The Paraguayan police have been sending some of their officers to the Chilean Carabineros for training and have others assigned to Peruvian, Colombian, and Brazilian military police units.

The Paraguayan Army has 12,500 men and 30 Brazilian-made armored vehicles—20 Cascavels (equipped with 90-mm guns) and 10 Urutu armored troop carriers—

produced by the ENGESA [Specialized Engineers, Inc.] in Sao Paulo. Over the last 20 years, the Brazilian Army has transferred to Paraguay dozens of U.S.-made obsolete World War II tanks and other armored vehicles. The Tamoio-3 carries a 105-mm cannon and can be equipped with night-vision scopes. It is considered one of the most competitive vehicles in its class, especially for Third World countries.

Colombia

ELN: Guerrilla Radio Station Begins Broadcasts

FL1110140288 Havana Radio Progreso Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 11 Oct 88

[Text] In Colombia, the rebel organization Army of National Liberation [ELN] has announced that the insurgent radio station "Radio Patria Libre" has begun broadcasting. This will be the first clandestine guerrilla radio station in Colombian history.

Medellin Banks Target of Bomb Attacks

PA1110154788 Bogota Inravision Television Cadena 1 in Spanish 0008 GMT 11 Oct 88

[Report by Lizette Arango]

[Text] Terrorism has once again taken its toll on banks, this time on two branches of the Stockbreeding Bank located right in the center of Medellin. Even though the bombs were intended for the Stockbreeding Banks, the shock waves were so powerful that they affected nearby banks.

The two bombs exploded 5 minutes apart at approximately 2200. The first explosion was at the Stockbreeding Bank at the corner of Bolivar and Colombia Streets, near Berrio Park. This explosion tore a hole in the front wall of the bank and broke windows and doors of neighboring banks.

The second bomb exploded at the Stockbreeding Bank at East and Beach Streets, next to the Somas Clinic.

[Begin recording of bank manager Luciano Villa] There had been no threats, so we do not know why the bank was attacked or how this can be justified in any way. [end recording]

Property damage has been estimated at 15 million pesos. Fortunately, no one was injured.

Foreign Investments Increase 42 Percent in 1988

PA1310025588 Bogota LA PRENSA in Spanish 7 Oct 88 p 27

[Summary] The National Planning Department reported yesterday that, despite everything, foreign investment in Colombia increased by 42 percent in the 1st 9 months of this year. Between January and September, the National Planning Department authorized investments from 29 countries amounting to $133.1 million. It was pointed out that three nations comprised the biggest share of these investments: the United States, with 28.9 percent; the United Kingdom, with 23.6 percent; and the FRG, with 19.2 percent.

Ecuador

Alfaro Lives Rejects Pardon, Demands Amnesty

PA1210135388 Quito EL UNIVERSAL in Spanish 3 Oct 88 p 8

[Text] Members of the subversive group "Alfaro Lives, Dammit" [AVC] held a clandestine news conference Saturday to state their views on an amnesty and the country's current situation.

The news conference was attended by a reporter from this newspaper and Deputy Rafael Santelices, who were unexpectedly "invited" by members of the guerrilla group to go to the meeting, blindfolded.

The AVC members gave Dr Santelices a manifesto to the country and a letter to Dr Wilfrido Lucero, president of the congress, indicating that he was "invited" to inform the members of congress about the AVC's views.

The document delivered by the rebels to Dr Santelices indicates that "the multiparty commission responsible for drafting an amnesty is violating the principles of democracy, because their inactivity and inefficiency only mocks the people's hopes." The rebels add that they have requested an amnesty and not a pardon, and they asked Dr Lucero to meet with the legislators and demand a prompt statement on the issue. The rebels' manifesto to the country states that the AVC is waiting for the dialogue and national consultation that were announced by President Borja but have yet to take place. They also demand an investigation to ascertain what has been done about the millions of sucres in overdue credits that must be paid by certain institutions and the 10 billion sucres held by foreign banks. The AVC also demands the creation of export taxes; the abolishment of tax credits [abono tributario]; the collection of Texaco's debt to the country; as well as strengthening the state's economy, nationalizing the Ecuadoran electric power enterprise, and carrying out a democratic agrarian reform.

The AVC members said they reject a pardon because it implies pardoning a crime. They added that they have not committed a crime. They have simply exercised the people's right to protest oppression and injustice, which is a political action. This means they should be given the status of political prisoners, not terrorists or common criminals.

The rebels also stated that if the congress grants them an amnesty, AVC will continue to support the government's proposal. They are willing to declare a cease-fire if the government proves its willingness to rule the people, but they reserve the right to defend themselves if they are attacked.

The AVC members later said they are willing to risk military repression if an amnesty is attained, adding that this risk is an Alfarist duty. They warned that they will remain alert to make sure that the government fulfills its pledges. The AVC members also stated that they will wait 2 months for a dialogue and 6 months for the president to fulfill his pledge about a national consultation. They added that they will act if the pledges are not fulfilled.

The rebels likewise said that if an amnesty is denied, AVC will reserve "the right to liberate prisoners at any cost," adding that "if the government does not open the prison doors in a legal way, [we] will open the doors by force."

Labor Minister on Wage Increase, Ministry 'Purge'

PA1310044288 Quito Radio Quito in Spanish 2300 GMT 12 Oct 88

[Excerpt] Ecuadoran Labor Minister Cesar Verduga said today that despite the country's economic crisis, the Ecuadoran Government will fulfill promises made to its employees and will pay salaries in accordance with the new wage scale published in the official [words indistinct].

Concerning [words indistinct], Labor Minister Verduga said that his ministry will promote job stability in accordance with what is established in the latest law on wage increases approved by the national congress and signed by the executive branch.

Finally, Minister Verduga said that he will conduct a purge of his ministry, especially of the bad inspectors who do not fulfill their duties and responsibilities. [passage omitted containing indistinct recording]

Peru

Foreign Minister Denies Rumors of Coup

PY1310023588 Lima Television Peruana in Spanish 0100 GMT 13 Oct 88

[Excerpt] Foreign Minister Luis Gonzales Posada has said that everything is ready for President Alan Garcia's trip to Punta del Este, Uruguay, where the Group of Eight summit will be held.

The foreign minister also said that the Armed Forces respect the Constitution, and he denied some alarming reports, which, he said, only seek to damage the image of that institution and of the country.

[Begin Gonzales recording] The Armed Forces are an extremely organized and disciplined institution, respectful of the Constitution. Therefore, any rumor of an alleged coup d'etat is an insult to an institution that is at the service of the Constitution and of the national laws.

Such rumors simply distort the image of Peru, which is based on respect for law and a democratic system.

I not only reject these alarming and groundless rumors, but I also wish to tell you that today I read a report from a news agency that was mere speculation. It was about an alleged coup and its reasons.

I would like to tell the journalist who wrote it that this report greatly harms Peru's image abroad. It is a groundless report, and no one should play with the prestige of solid institutions like the Peruvian Armed Forces.

I reject and deny this report, and I request that this kind of subject be handled with seriousness, because Peru's prestige is at stake, as is our image—which has started to reflect our stable institutions.

The Peruvian Armed Forces are safeguarding our democratic institutions, as they have clearly confirmed—not only because of constitutional orders but because of the vocation of its members, who respect the Constitution, the law, and the democratic system. [passage omitted] [end recording]

Commander of First Army Region Removed

PY1310025088 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0156 GMT 13 Oct 88

[Text] Lima, 12 Oct (EFE)—General Raul Silva Tuesta, commander of the First Army Region, has been removed from his post for allegedly supporting a move to destabilize the democratic system.

The Defense Ministry, however, released a communique last night stating that Gen Silva Tuesta, who has been commander of the First Army Region since 1987, requested his retirement last Monday. This communique did not mention the reason for the request.

Asking to remain anonymous, the Army sources who disclosed Gen Tuesta's dismissal said that he was separated from the post "as a disciplinary measure for disloyalty to the high command." The same sources disclosed that General Julio Valverde Buitron has been appointed new commander of the First Army Region, which is the country's most important. His appointment has not, however, been officially announced.

President Alan Garcia said nothing about this dismissal during a meeting with the press today. Senator Javier Silva Ruete, however, has requested the appearance of Defense Minister General Enrique Lopez Albujar in Congress to explain the dismissal of Gen Silva Tuesta.

The truth is that the reports on Gen Silva Tuesta's position regarding the Peruvian constitutional regime are contradictory. While Army sources charged Silva Tuesta with having attempted to pave the way for the formation of a military-civilian government, political observers affirmed that he aborted a "coup" that had been prepared for 8 October.

Last Saturday's EL COMERCIO reported rumors of a possible rupture of the country's institutional order. The opposition newspaper LA REPUBLICA reported today that Silva Tuesta "aborted" a military coup and informed political circles of the intention of a group of military officers, who then forced him to request his own retirement.

When Alan Garcia came to power in July 1985, the Army appointed Silva Tuesta as chief of the president's military cabinet. A year and a half later, he was appointed commander of the First Military Region, headquartered in Piura, 1,100 km northeast of Lima.

Villanueva on 'Retirement'

PY1310025588 Lima Television Peruana in Spanish 0100 GMT 13 Oct 88

[Text] Prime Minister Armando Villanueva del Campo today explained to Lima Television Peruana the reasons for the retirement of Army General Victor Raul Silva.

[Begin recording] [Reporter] What can you tell us about the large troop movements in the north Army zone, zone number one?

[Villanueva] I have no reports of any troop movements in any military zone of the country. Gen Silva talked with his commander, I think on 8 October, and requested to retire. I appreciate Gen Silva; I think he is a gentleman. He is a soldier who deserves all my respect. His decision is personal, something that we have to respect.

[Reporter] You deny then there have been any movements, or attempts at troop movements...

[Villaneuva, interrupting] I can assure you there has not been anything, nothing whatsoever that could be considered an alteration of the democratic order by Gen Silva or anyone else. [end recording]

Financial Agreement Signed With USSR

PY1210111488 Lima Television Peruana in Spanish 0100 GMT 12 Oct 88

[Excerpt] Today Senator Armando Villanueva del Campo, the president of the Council of Ministers and minister of the Presidency, in his office at the Civic Center received a protocol visit by Soviet Ambassador Anatoliy Filatov, who was accompanied by a delegation of Soviet representatives.

During the meeting, subjects of interest for the two countries were discussed.

[Begin recording] [Villanueva] We have just listened to the president of the Foreign Trade Institute (ICE), who concluded negotiations for a financial agreement in our favor for $150 million. We are very pleased to receive our friends.

[Reporter] Does this $150 million represent Peruvian exports?

[Villanueva] It consists of machinery and other necessary staples for Peru. Peruvian exports to the Soviet Union are increasing gradually. We also hope to sign another agreement in the fishing area that will allow us to increase our food supply through the Soviet fishing enterprise. [end recording] [passage omitted]

USSR Fishing, Mining Support

PY1210154188 Lima Domestic Service in Spanish 1040 GMT 12 Oct 88

[Text] Peruvian Prime Minister Armando Villanueva del Campo has confirmed that the USSR will support the fishing and mining sectors as part of its cooperation program with Peru.

Villanueva said that he has met with a Soviet delegation interested in the exploitation of the (Vallovar) phosphate deposits and in signing a fishing agreement to increase the level of the fish catch.

Army Patrol Kills 3 'Terrorists,' Arrests 4

PY1210145588 Lima Domestic Service in Spanish 1040 GMT 12 Oct 88

[Text] The political-military command has issued a communique reporting that three terrorists have died and four were arrested in an armed clash between an Army patrol and a terrorist column.

The communique says that a few days ago a group of terrorists clashed with the Army in the Chilhua Region, La Mar Province, Ayacucho Department. Some terrorists were detained and put at the disposal of the San Miguel police station.

Uruguay

Barrios Tassano on Talks With Shultz, Group of 8

PY1210203988 Montevideo EL DIA in Spanish 6 Oct 88 p 7

[Text] "The United States is beginning to lose the fear it had of the Group of Eight," Uruguayan Foreign Minister Luis Barrios Tassano said during an interview in New York in which he summarized his activities at the United Nations.

Minister Barrios, who will return to the country shortly after noon today, emphasized that during his meeting with Secretary of State George Shultz the two officials recognized the need to improve the dialogue between Latin America and the United States.

Barrios Tassano said Shultz had a positive view of the Punta del Este presidential summit that will be held from 27 to 29 November. He added that "Washington has begun to lose its fear of the Group of Eight because we have tirelessly repeated that we are not trying to create an OAS without the United States and that the group does not intend to represent the moral, ethical, or political leadership in Latin America. Our purpose continues to be the creation of an organization for unity and integration, not only among ourselves, but also with the rest of the world."

Barrios held meetings with the foreign ministers of Hungary, Poland, Cuba, Bolivia, Panama, Spain, Paraguay, and the PRC and other Asian countries.

The Presidency Public Relations Office disseminated Foreign Minister Barrios' statements yesterday. The text of the declaration states that the minister returned to Montevideo with the draft of a document jointly worked out by the foreign ministers of the Group of Eight. Barrios Tassano remarked: "We have coordinated our positions. We already have a sufficiently advanced working document, 20 days before the summit meeting."

Regarding Central America, Barrios Tassano said: "The Group of Eight has reiterated its willingness to cooperate if this cooperation is requested. [no closing quotation mark as published]

Suriname

Party Says Working Class To Bear Budget Burden

FL1210191388 Paramaribo International Service in English 1730 GMT 12 Oct 88

[Text] The Workers Party of Suriname, SPA, says that the sacrifice for a healthy state budget will again be shouldered by the less fortunate in society. The sacrifices to meet the budgetary deficits will relatively weigh heavier on the shoulders of the working class. The SPA says that with this, it is clear who's interest the government is serving.

The party says that the [words indistinct] in the current government don't have a similar development position and for this reason cannot draft a development plan. The draft budget for 1989 doesn't meet the constitutional demands. It's not a reflection of a development plan because, according to the SPA, there is no such plan. The party has made some recommendations which can help finance the budgetary deficit in another way. In this relation, the SPA calls for financing through the capital market and direct taxation.